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PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM

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WOODFORD COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens of the County,

TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF THE STATE, AND OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROS.
1889.

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Illinois Historical
Survey

PREFACE.

THE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of this county has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued "the even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"they have done what they could." It tells how that many in the pride and strength of young manhood left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records, and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written, and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to the biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men could never be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

CHAPMAN BROS.

CHICAGO, September, 1889.

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PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES

OF THE

GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS,

AND OF THE

PRESIDENTS

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

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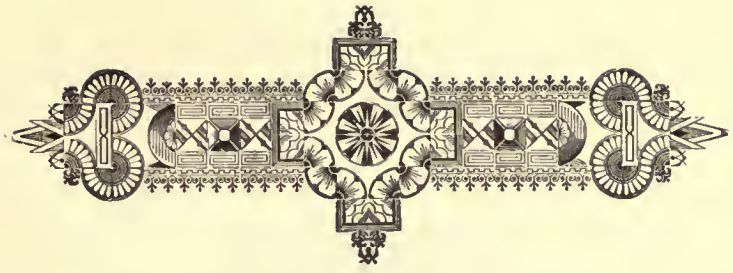
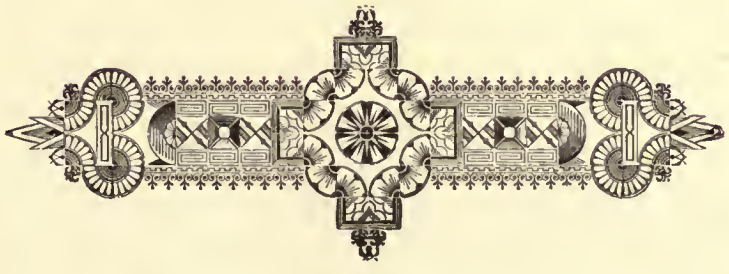
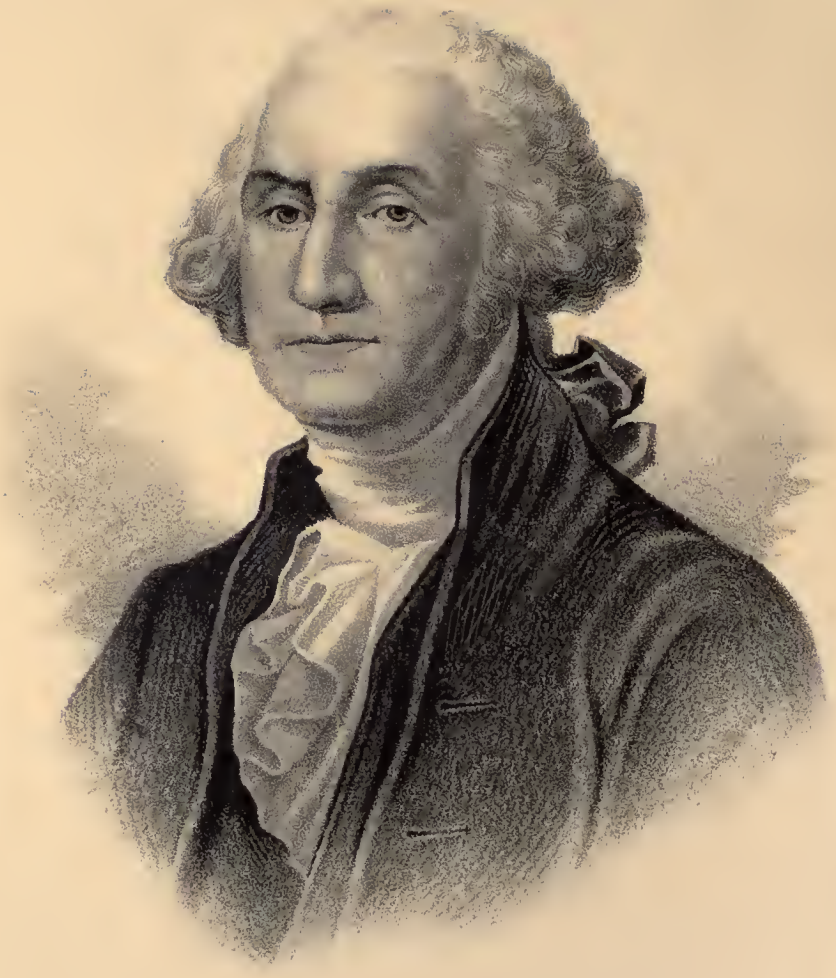
1885.



PRESIDENTS.





G. Washington

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GEORGE WASHINGTON.

THE Father of our Country was born in Westmorland Co., Va., Feb. 22, 1732. His parents were Augustine and Mary (Ball) Washington. The family to which he belonged has not been satisfactorily traced in England. His great-grandfather, John Washington, emigrated to Virginia about 1657, and became a prosperous planter. He had two sons, Lawrence and John. The former married Mildred Warner and had three children, John, Augustine and Mildred. Augustine, the father of George, first married Jane Butler, who bore him four children, two of whom, Lawrence and Augustine, reached maturity. Of six children by his second marriage, George was the eldest, the others being Betty, Samuel, John Augustine, Charles and Mildred.

Augustine Washington, the father of George, died in 1743, leaving a large landed property. To his eldest son, Lawrence, he bequeathed an estate on the Patomac, afterwards known as Mount Vernon, and to George he left the parental residence. George received only such education as the neighborhood schools afforded, save for a short time after he left school, when he received private instruction in mathematics. His spelling was rather defective. Remarkable stories are told of his great physical strength and development at an early age. He was an acknowledged leader among his companions, and was early noted for that nobleness of character, fairness and veracity which characterized his whole life.

When George was 14 years old he had a desire to go to sea, and a midshipman's warrant was secured for him, but through the opposition of his mother the idea was abandoned. Two years later he was appointed surveyor to the immense estate of Lord Fairfax. In this business he spent three years in a rough frontier life, gaining experience which afterwards proved very essential to him. In 1751, though only 19 years of age, he was appointed adjutant with the rank of major in the Virginia militia, then being trained for active service against the French and Indians. Soon after this he sailed to the West Indies with his brother Lawrence, who went there to restore his health They soon returned, and in the summer of 1752 Lawrence died, leaving a large fortune to an infant daughter who did not long survive him. On her demise the estate of Mount Vernon was given to George.

Upon the arrival of Robert Dinwiddie, as Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, in 1752, the militia was reorganized, and the province divided into four military districts, of which the northern was assigned to Washington as adjutant general. Shortly after this a very perilous mission was assigned him and accepted, which others had refused. This was to proceed to the French post near Lake Erie in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The distance to be traversed was between 500 and 600 miles. Winter was at hand, and the journey was to be made without military escort, through a territory occupied by Indians. The

trip was a perilous one, and several times he came near losing his life, yet he returned in safety and furnished a full and useful report of his expedition. A regiment of 300 men was raised in Virginia and put in command of Col. Joshua Fry, and Major Washington was commissioned lieutenant-colonel. Active war was then begun against the French and Indians, in which Washington took a most important part. In the memorable event of July 9, 1755, known as Braddock's defeat, Washington was almost the only officer of distinction who escaped from the calamities of the day with life and honor. The other aids of Braddock were disabled early in the action, and Washington alone was left in that capacity on the field. In a letter to his brother he says: "I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." An Indian sharpshooter said he was not born to be killed by a bullet, for he had taken direct aim at him seventeen times, and failed to hit him.

After having been five years in the military service, and vainly sought promotion in the royal army, he took advantage of the fall of Fort Duquesne and the expulsion of the French from the valley of the Ohio, to resign his commission. Soon after he entered the Legislature, where, although not a leader, he took an active and important part. January 17, 1759, he married Mrs. Martha (Dandridge) Custis, the wealthy widow of John Parke Custis.

When the British Parliament had closed the port of Boston, the cry went up throughout the provinces that "The cause of Boston is the cause of us all." It was then, at the suggestion of Virginia, that a Congress of all the colonies was called to meet at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, to secure their common liberties, peaceably if possible. To this Congress Col. Washington was sent as a delegate. On May 10, 1775, the Congress re-assembled, when the hostile intentions of England were plainly apparent. The battles of Concord and Lexington had been fought. Among the first acts of this Congress was the election of a commander-in-chief of the colonial forces. This high and responsible office was conferred upon Washington, who was still a member of the Congress. He accepted it on June 19, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his commission as commander-in-chief of the army to to the Continental Congress sitting at Annapolis. He retired immediately to Mount Vernon and resumed his occupation as a farmer and planter, shunning all connection with public life.

In February, 1789, Washington was unanimously elected President. In his presidential career he was subject to the peculiar trials incidental to a new government; trials from lack of confidence on the part of other governments; trials from want of harmony between the different sections of our own country; trials from the impoverished condition of the country, owing to the war and want of credit; trials from the beginnings of party strife. He was no partisan. His clear judgment could discern the golden mean; and while perhaps this alone kept our government from sinking at the very outset, it left him exposed to attacks from both sides, which were often bitter and very annoying.

At the expiration of his first term he was unanimously re-elected. At the end of this term many were anxious that he be re-elected, but he absolutely refused a third nomination. On the fourth of March, 1797, at the expiraton of his second term as President, he returned to his home, hoping to pass there his few remaining years free from the annoyances of public life. Later in the year, however, his repose seemed likely to be interrupted by war with France. At the prospect of such a war he was again urged to take command of the armies. He chose his subordinate officers and left to them the charge of matters in the field, which he superintended from his home. In accepting the command he made the reservation that he was not to be in the field until it was necessary. In the midst of these preparations his life was suddenly cut off. December 12, he took a severe cold from a ride in the rain, which, settling in his throat, produced inflammation, and terminated fatally on the night of the fourteenth. On the eighteenth his body was borne with military honors to its final resting place, and interred in the family vault at Mount Vernon.

Of the character of Washington it is impossible to speak but in terms of the highest respect and admiration. The more we see of the operations of our government, and the more deeply we feel the difficulty of uniting all opinions in a common interest, the more highly we must estimate the force of his talent and character, which have been able to challenge the reverence of all parties, and principles, and nations, and to win a fame as extended as the limits of the globe, and which we cannot but believe will be as lasting as the existence of man.

The person of Washington was unusally tall, erect and well proportioned. His muscular strength was great. His features were of a beautiful symmetry. He commanded respect without any appearance of haughtiness, and ever serious without being dull.

John Adams

JOHN ADAMS.

JOHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a "school of affliction," from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvanistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolutions he offered on the subject became very popular throughout the Province, and were adopted word for word by over forty different towns. He moved to Boston in 1768, and became one of the most courageous and prominent advocates of the popular cause, and was chosen a member of the General Court (the Leglislature) in 1770.

Mr. Adams was chosen one of the first delegates from Massachusetts to the first Continental Congress, which met in 1774. Here he distinguished himself by his capacity for business and for debate, and advocated the movement for independence against the majority of the members. In May, 1776, he moved and carried a resolution in Congress that the Colonies should assume the duties of self-government. He was a prominent member of the committee of five appointed June 11, to prepare a declaration of independence. This article was drawn by Jefferson, but on Adams devolved the task of battling it through Congress in a three days debate.

On the day after the Declaration of Independence was passed, while his soul was yet warm with the glow of excited feeling, he wrote a letter to his wife which, as we read it now, seems to have been dictated by the spirit of prophecy. "Yesterday," he says, "the greatest question was decided that ever was debated in America; and greater, perhaps, never was or will be decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, 'that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states.' The day is passed. The fourth of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp, shows,

games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward for ever. You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil, and blood and treasure, that it will cost to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these States; yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of light and glory. I can see that the end is worth more than all the means; and that posterity will triumph, although you and I may rue, which I hope we shall not."

In November, 1777, Mr. Adams was appointed a delegate to France, and to co-operate with Bemjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, who were then in Paris, in the endeavor to obtain assistance in arms and money from the French Government. This was a severe trial to his patriotism, as it separated him from his home, compelled him to cross the ocean in winter, and exposed him to great peril of capture by the British cruisers, who were seeking him. He left France June 17, 1779. In September of the same year he was again chosen to go to Paris, and there hold himself in readiness to negotiate a treaty of peace and of commerce with Great Britian, as soon as the British Cabinet might be found willing to listen to such proposels. He sailed for France in November, from there he went to Holland, where he negotiated important loans and formed important commercial treaties.

Finally a treaty of peace with England was signed Jan. 21, 1783. The re-action from the excitement, toil and anxiety through which Mr. Adams had passed threw him into a fever. After suffering from a continued fever and becoming feeble and emaciated he was advised to go to England to drink the waters of Bath. While in England, still drooping and desponding, he received dispatches from his own government urging the necessity of his going to Amsterdam to negotiate another loan. It was winter, his health was delicate, yet he immediately set out, and through storm, on sea, on horseback and foot,he made the trip.

February 24, 1785, Congress appointed Mr. Adams envoy to the Court of St. James. Here he met face to face the King of England, who had so long regarded him as a traitor. As England did not condescend to appoint a minister to the United States, and as Mr. Adams felt that he was accomplishing but little, he sought permission to return to his own country, where he arrived in June, 1788.

When Washington was first chosen President, John Adams, rendered illustiious by his signal services at home and abroad, was chosen Vice President. Again at the second election of Washington as President, Adams was chosen Vice President. In 1796, Washington retired from public life, and Mr. Adams was elected President,though not without much opposition. Serving in this office four years,he was succeeded by Mr. Jefferson, his opponent in politics.

While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhored the class of atheist philosophers who he claimed caused it. On the other hand Jefferson's sympathies were strongly enlisted in behalf of the French people. Hence originated the alienation between these distinguished men, and two powerful parties were thus soon organized, Adams at the head of the one whose sympathies were with England and Jefferson led the other in sympathy with France.

The world has seldom seen a spectacle of more moral beauty and grandeur, than was presented by the old age of Mr. Adams. The violence of party feeling had died away, and he had begun to receive that just appreciation which, to most men, is not accorded till after death. No one could look upon his venerable form, and think of what he had done and suffered, and how he had given up all the prime and strength of his life to the public good, without the deepest emotion of gratitude and respect. It was his peculiar good fortune to witness the complete success of the institution which he had been so active in creating and supporting. In 1824, his cup of happiness was filled to the brim, by seeing his son elevated to the highest station in the gift of the people.

The fourth of July, 1826, which completed the half century since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, arrived, and there were but three of the signers of that immortal instrument left upon the earth to hail its morning light. And, as it is well known, on that day two of these finished their earthly pilgrimage, a coincidence so remarkable as to seem miraculous. For a few days before Mr. Adams had been rapidly failing, and on the morning of the fourth he found himself too weak to rise from his bed. On being requested to name a toast for the customary celebration of the day, he exclaimed "INDEPENDENCE FOREVER." When the day was ushered in, by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannons, he was asked by one of his attendants if he knew what day it was? He replied, "O yes; it is the glorious fourth of July—God bless it—God bless you all." In the course of the day he said, "It is a great and glorious day." The last words he uttered were, "Jefferson survives." But he had, at one o'clock, resigned his spiiit into the hands of his God.

The personal appearance and manners of Mr. Adams were not particularly prepossessing. His face, as his portrait manifests,was intellectual and expressive, but his figure was low and ungraceful, and his manners were frequently abrupt and uncourteous. He had neither the lofty dignity of Washington, nor the engaging elegance and gracefulness which marked the manners and address of Jefferson.

Th. Jefferson

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albermarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and there was not to be found, perhaps, in all Virginia, a more pureminded, upright, gentlemanly young man.

Immediately upon leaving college he began the study of law. For the short time he continued in the practice of his profession he rose rapidly and distinguished himself by his energy and accuteness as a lawyer. But the times called for greater action. The policy of England had awakened the spirit of resistance of the American Colonies, and the enlarged views which Jefferson had ever entertained, soon led him into active political life. In 1769 he was chosen a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. In 1772 he married Mrs. Martha Skelton, a very beautiful, wealthy and highly accomplished young widow.

Upon Mr. Jefferson's large estate at Shadwell, there was a majestic swell of land, called Monticello, which commanded a prospect of wonderful extent and beauty. This spot Mr. Jefferson selected for his new home; and here he reared a mansion of modest yet elegant architecture, which, next to Mount Vernon, became the most distinguished resort in our land.

In 1775 he was sent to the Colonial Congress, where, though a silent member, his abilities as a writer and a reasoner soon become known, and he was placed upon a number of important committees, and was chairman of the one appointed for the drawing up of a declaration of independence. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, as chairman, was appointed to draw up the paper. Franklin and Adams suggested a few verbal changes before it was submitted to Congress. On June 28, a few slight changes were made in it by Congress, and it was passed and signed July 4, 1776. What must have been the feelings of that

man—what the emotions that swelled his breast—who was charged with the preparation of that Declaration, which, while it made known the wrongs of America, was also to publish her to the world, free, soverign and independent. It is one of the most remarkable papers ever written; and did no other effort of the mind of its author exist, that alone would be sufficient to stamp his name with immortality.

In 1779 Mr. Jefferson was elected successor to Patrick Henry, as Governor of Virginia. At one time the British officer, Tarleton, sent a secret expedition to Monticello, to capture the Governor. Scarcely five minutes elapsed after the hurried escape of Mr. Jefferson and his family, ere his mansion was in possession of the British troops. His wife's health, never very good, was much injured by this excitement, and in the summer of 1782 she died.

Mr. Jefferson was elected to Congress in 1783. Two years later he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France. Returning to the United States in September, 1789, he became Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet. This position he resigned Jan. 1, 1794. In 1797, he was chosen Vice President, and four years later was elected President over Mr. Adams, with Aaron Burr as Vice President. In 1804 he was re-elected with wonderful unaninity, and George Clinton, Vice President.

The early part of Mr. Jefferson's second adminstration was disturbed by an event which threatened the tranquility and peace of the Union; this was the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. Defeated in the late election to the Vice Presidency, and led on by an unprincipled ambition, this extraordinary man formed the plan of a military expedition into the Spanish territories on our southwestern frontier, for the purpose of forming there a new republic. This has been generally supposed was a mere pretext; and although it has not been generally known what his real plans were, there is no doubt that they were of a far more dangerous character.

In 1809, at the expiration of the second term for which Mr. Jefferson had been elected, he determined to retire from political life. For a period of nearly forty years, he had been continually before the public, and all that time had been employed in offices of the greatest trust and responsibility. Having thus devoted the best part of his life to the service of his country, he now felt desirous of that rest which his declining years required, and upon the organization of the new administration, in March, 1809, he bid farewell forever to public life, and retired to Monticello.

Mr. Jefferson was profuse in his hospitality. Whole families came in their coaches with their horses,—fathers and mothers, boys and girls, babies and nurses,—and remained three and even six months. Life at Monticello, for years, resembled that at a fashionable watering-place.

The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer, and one of the few surviving signers of the Declaration, to participate in their festivities. But an illness, which had been of several weeks duration, and had been continually increasing, compelled him to decline the invitation.

On the second of July, the disease under which he was laboring left him, but in such a reduced state that his medical attendants, entertained no hope of his recovery. From this time he was perfectly sensible that his last hour was at hand. On the next day, which was Monday, he asked of those around him, the day of the month, and on being told it was the third of July, he expressed the earnest wish that he might be permitted to breathe the air of the fiftieth anniversary. His prayer was heard—that day, whose dawn was hailed with such rapture through our land, burst upon his eyes, and then they were closed forever. And what a noble consummation of a noble life! To die on that day,—the birthday of a nation,—the day which his own name and his own act had rendered glorious; to die amidst the rejoicings and festivities of a whole nation, who looked up to him, as the author, under God, of their greatest blessings, was all that was wanting to fill up the record his life.

Almost at the same hour of his death, the kindred spirit of the venerable Adams, as if to bear him company, left the scene of his earthly honors. Hand in hand they had stood forth, the champions of freedom; hand in hand, during the dark and desperate struggle of the Revolution, they had cheered and animated their desponding countrymen; for half a century they had labored together for the good of the country; and now hand in hand they depart. In their lives they had been united in the same great cause of liberty, and in their deaths they were not divided.

In person Mr. Jefferson was tall and thin, rather above six feet in height, but well formed; his eyes were light, his hair originally red, in after life became white and silvery; his complexion was fair, his forehead broad, and his whole countenance intelligent and thoughtful. He possessed great fortitude of mind as well as personal courage; and his command of temper was such that his oldest and most intimate friends never recollected to have seen him in a passion. His manners, though dignified, were simple and unaffected, and his hospitality was so unbounded that all found at his house a ready welcome. In conversation he was fluent, eloquent and enthusiastic; and his language was remarkably pure and correct. He was a finished classical scholar, and in his writings is discernable the care with which he formed his style upon the best models of antiquity.

James Madison

JAMES MADISON.

JAMES MADISON, "Father of the Constitution," and fourth President of the United States, was born March 16, 1757, and died at his home in Virginia, June 28, 1836. The name of James Madison is inseparably connected with most of the important events in that heroic period of our country during which the foundations of this great republic were laid. He was the last of the founders of the Constitution of the United States to be called to his eternal reward.

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

The early education of Mr. Madison was conducted mostly at home under a private tutor. At the age of 18 he was sent to Princeton College, in New Jersey. Here he applied himself to study with the most imprudent zeal; allowing himself, for months, but three hours' sleep out of the 24. His health thus became so seriously impaired that he never recovered any vigor of constitution. He graduated in 1771, with a feeble body, with a character of utmost purity, and with a mind highly disciplined and richly stored with learning which embellished and gave proficiency to his subsequent career.

Returning to Virginia, he commenced the study of law and a course of extensive and systematic reading. This educational course, the spirit of the times in which he lived, and the society with which he associated, all combined to inspire him with a strong love of liberty, and to train him for his life-work of a statesman. Being naturally of a religious turn of mind, and his frail health leading him to think that his life was not to be long, he directed especial attention to theological studies. Endowed with a mind singularly free from passion and prejudice, and with almost unequalled powers of reasoning, he weighed all the arguments for and against revealed religion, until his faith became so established as never to be shaken.

In the spring of 1776, when 26 years of age, he was elected a member of the Virginia Convention, to frame the constitution of the State. The next year (1777), he was a candidate for the General Assembly. He refused to treat the whisky-loving voters, and consequently lost his election; but those who had witnessed the talent, energy and public spirit of the modest young man, enlisted themselves in his behalf, and he was appointed to the Executive Council.

Both Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson were Governors of Virginia while Mr. Madison remained member of the Council; and their appreciation of his

intellectual, social and moral worth, contributed not a little to his subsequent eminence. In the year 1780, he was elected a member of the Continental Congress. Here he met the most illustrious men in our land, and he was immediately assigned to one of the most conspicuous positions among them.

For three years Mr. Madison continued in Congress, one of its most active and influential members. In the year 1784, his term having expired, he was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature.

No man felt more deeply than Mr. Madison the utter inefficiency of the old confederacy, with no national government, with no power to form treaties which would be binding, or to enforce law. There was not any State more prominent than Virginia in the declaration, that an efficient national government must be formed. In January, 1786, Mr. Madison carried a resolution through the General Assembly of Virginia, inviting the other States to appoint commissioners to meet in convention at Annapolis to discuss this subject. Five States only were represented. The convention, however, issued another call, drawn up by Mr. Madison, urging all the States to send their delegates to Philadelphia, in May, 1787, to draft a Constitution for the United States, to take the place of that Confederate League. The delegates met at the time appointed. Every State but Rhode Island was represented. George Washington was chosen President of the convention; and the present Constitution of the United States was then and there formed. There was, perhaps, no mind and no pen more active in framing this immortal document than the mind and the pen of James Madison.

The Constitution, adopted by a vote 81 to 79, was to be presented to the several States for acceptance. But grave solicitude was felt. Should it be rejected we should be left but a conglomeration of independent States, with but little power at home and little respect abroad. Mr. Madison was selected by the convention to draw up an address to the people of the United States, expounding the principles of the Constitution, and urging its adoption. There was great opposition to it at first, but it at length triumphed over all, and went into effect in 1789.

Mr. Madison was elected to the House of Representatives in the first Congress, and soon became the avowed leader of the Republican party. While in New York attending Congress, he met Mrs. Todd, a young widow of remarkable power of fascination, whom he married. She was in person and character queenly, and probably no lady has thus far occupied so prominent a position in the very peculiar society which has constituted our republican court as Mrs. Madison.

Mr. Madison served as Secretary of State under Jefferson, and at the close of his administration was chosen President. At this time the encroachments of England had brought us to the verge of war. British orders in council destroyed our commerce, and our flag was exposed to constant insult. Mr. Madison was a man of peace. Scholarly in his taste, retiring in his disposition, war had no charms for him. But the meekest spirit can be roused. It makes one's blood boil, even now, to think of an American ship brought to, upon the ocean, by the guns of an English cruiser. A young lieutenant steps on board and orders the crew to be paraded before him. With great nonchalance he selects any number whom he may please to designate as British subjects; orders them down the ship's side into his boat; and places them on the gun-deck of his man-of-war, to fight, by compulsion, the battles of England. This right of search and impressment, no efforts of our Government could induce the British cabinet to relinquish.

On the 18th of June, 1812, President Madison gave his approval to an act of Congress declaring war against Great Britain. Notwithstanding the bitter hostility of the Federal party to the war, the country in general approved; and Mr. Madison, on the 4th of March, 1813, was re-elected by a large majority, and entered upon his second term of office. This is not the place to describe the various adventures of this war on the land and on the water. Our infant navy then laid the foundations of its renown in grappling with the most formidable power which ever swept the seas. The contest commenced in earnest by the appearance of a British fleet, early in February, 1813, in Chesapeake Bay, declaring nearly the whole coast of the United States under blockade.

The Emperor of Russia offered his services as mediator. America accepted; England refused. A British force of five thousand men landed on the banks of the Patuxet River, near its entrance into Chesapeake Bay, and marched rapidly, by way of Bladensburg, upon Washington.

The straggling little city of Washington was thrown into consternation. The cannon of the brief conflict at Bladensburg echoed through the streets of the metropolis. The whole population fled from the city. The President, leaving Mrs. Madison in the White House, with her carriage drawn up at the door to await his speedy return, hurried to meet the officers in a council of war. He met our troops utterly routed, and he could not go back without danger of being captured. But few hours elapsed ere the Presidential Mansion, the Capitol, and all the public buildings in Washington were in flames.

The war closed after two years of fighting, and on Feb. 13, 1815, the treaty of peace was signed at Ghent.

On the 4th of March, 1817, his second term of office expired, and he resigned the Presidential chair to his friend, James Monroe. He retired to his beautiful home at Montpelier, and there passed the remainder of his days. On June 28, 1836, then at the age of 85 years, he fell asleep in death. Mrs. Madison died July 12, 1849.

James Monroe

JAMES MONROE.

JAMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britian, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence. Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

He joined the army when everything looked hopeless and gloomy. The number of deserters increased from day to day. The invading armies came pouring in; and the tories not only favored the cause of the mother country, but disheartened the new recruits, who were sufficiently terrified at the prospect of contending with an enemy whom they had been taught to deem invincible. To such brave spirits as James Monroe, who went right onward, undismayed through difficulty and danger, the United States owe their political emancipation. The young cadet joined the ranks, and espoused the cause of his injured country, with a firm determination to live or die with her strife for liberty. Firmly yet sadly he shared in the melancholy retreat from Harleam Heights and White Plains, and accompanied the dispirited army as it fled before its foes through New Jersey. In four months after the Declaration of Independence, the patriots had been beaten in seven battles. At the battle of Trenton he led the vanguard, and, in the act of charging upon the enemy he received a wound in the left shoulder.

As a reward for his bravery, Mr. Monroe was promoted a captain of infantry; and, having recovered from his wound, he rejoined the army. He, however, receded from the line of promotion, by becoming an officer in the staff of Lord Sterling. During the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, in the actions of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

In 1782, he was elected from King George county, a member of the Leglislature of Virginia, and by that body he was elevated to a seat in the Executive Council. He was thus honored with the confidence of his fellow citizens at 23 years of age; and having at this early period displayed some of that ability and aptitude for legislation, which were afterwards employed with unremitting energy for the public good,

he was in the succeeding year chosen a member of the Congress of the United States.

Deeply as Mr. Monroe felt the imperfections of the old Confederacy, he was opposed to the new Constitution, thinking, with many others of the Republican party, that it gave too much power to the Central Government, and not enough to the individual States. Still he retained the esteem of his friends who were its warm supporters, and who, notwithstanding his opposition secured its adoption. In 1789, he became a member of the United States Senate; which office he held for four years. Every month the line of distinction between the two great parties which divided the nation, the Federal and the Republican, was growing more distinct. The two prominent ideas which now separated them were, that the Republican party was in sympathy with France, and also in favor of such a strict construction of the Constitution as to give the Central Government as little power, and the State Governments as much power, as the Constitution would warrant. The Federalists sympathized with England, and were in favor of a liberal construction of the Constitution, which would give as much power to the Central Government as that document could possibly authorize.

The leading Federalists and Republicans were alike noble men, consecrating all their energies to the good of the nation. Two more honest men or more pure patriots than John Adams the Federalist, and James Monroe the Republican, never breathed. In building up this majestic nation, which is destined to eclipse all Grecian and Assyrian greatness, the combination of their antagonism was needed to create the right equilibrium. And yet each in his day was denounced as almost a demon.

Washington was then President. England had espoused the cause of the Bourbons against the principles of the French Revolution. All Europe was drawn into the conflict. We were feeble and far away. Washington issued a proclamation of neutrality between these contending powers. France had helped us in the struggle for our liberties. All the despotisms of Europe were now combined to prevent the French from escaping from a tyranny a thousand-fold worse than that which we had endured. Col. Monroe, more magnanimous than prudent, was anxious that, at whatever hazard, we should help our old allies in their extremity. It was the impulse of a generous and noble nature. He violently opposed the President's proclamation as ungrateful and wanting in magnanimity.

Washington, who could appreciate such a character, developed his calm, serene, almost divine greatness, by appointing that very James Monroe, who was denouncing the policy of the Government, as the minister of that Government to the Republic of France. Mr. Monroe was welcomed by the National Convention in France with the most enthusiastic demonstrations.

Shortly after his return to this country, Mr. Monroe was elected Governor of Virginia, and held the office for three years. He was again sent to France to co-operate with Chancellor Livingston in obtaining the vast territory then known as the Province of Louisiana, which France had but shortly before obtained from Spain. Their united efforts were successful. For the comparatively small sum of fifteen millions of dollars, the entire territory of Orleans and district of Louisiana were added to the United States. This was probably the largest transfer of real estate which was ever made in all the history of the world.

From France Mr. Monroe went to England to obtain from that country some recognition of our rights as neutrals, and to remonstrate against those odious impressments of our seamen. But England was unrelenting. He again returned to England on the same mission, but could receive no redress. He returned to his home and was again chosen Governor of Virginia. This he soon resigned to accept the position of Secretary of State under Madison. While in this office war with England was declared, the Secretary of War resigned, and during these trying times, the duties of the War Department were also put upon him. He was truly the armor-bearer of President Madison, and the most efficient business man in his cabinet. Upon the return of peace he resigned the Department of War, but continued in the office of Secretary of State until the expiration of Mr. Madison's adminstration. At the election held the previous autumn Mr. Monroe himself had been chosen President with but little opposition, and upon March 4, 1817, was inaugurated. Four years later he was elected for a second term.

Among the important measures of his Presidency were the cession of Florida to the United States; the Missouri Compromise, and the "Monroe doctrine."

This famous doctrine, since known as the "Monroe doctrine," was enunciated by him in 1823. At that time the United States had recognized the independence of the South American states, and did not wish to have European powers longer attempting to subdue portions of the American Continent. The doctrine is as follows: "That we should consider any attempt on the part of European powers to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety," and "that we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing or controlling American governments or provinces in any other light than as a manifestation by European powers of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States." This doctrine immediately affected the course of foreign governments, and has become the approved sentiment of the United States.

At the end of his second term Mr. Monroe retired to his home in Virginia, where he lived until 1830, when he went to New York to live with his son-in-law. In that city he died on the 4th of July, 1831

J. Q. Adams

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, the sixth President of the United States, was born in the rural home of his honored father. John Adams, in Quincy, Mass., on the 11th of July, 1767. His mother, a woman of exalted worth, watched over his childhood during the almost constant absence of his father. When but eight years of age, he stood with his mother on an eminence, listening to the booming of the great battle on Bunker's Hill, and gazing on upon the smoke and flames billowing up from the conflagration of Charlestown.

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe, through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

Mr. John Adams had scarcely returned to this country, in 1779, ere he was again sent abroad. Again John Quincy accompanied his father. At Paris he applied himself with great diligence, for six months, to study; then accompained his father to Holland, where he entered, first a school in Amsterdam, then the University at Leyden. About a year from this time, in 1781, when the manly boy was but fourteen years of age, he was selected by Mr. Dana, our minister to the Russian court, as his private secretary.

In this school of incessant labor and of enobling culture he spent fourteen months, and then returned to Holland through Sweden, Denmark, Hamburg and Bremen. This long journey he took alone, in the winter, when in his sixteenth year. Again he resumed his studies, under a private tutor, at Hague. Thence in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming acquaintance with the most distinguished men on the Continent; examining architectural remains, galleries of paintings, and all renowned works of art. At Paris he again became associated with the most illustrious men of all lands in the contemplations of the loftiest temporal themes which can engross the human mind. After a short visit to England he returned to Paris, and consecrated all his energies to study until May, 1785, when he returned to America. To a brilliant young man of eighteen, who had seen much of the world, and who was familiar with the etiquette of courts, a residence with his father in London, under such circumstances, must have been extremely attractive but with judgment very rare in one of his age, he preferred to return to America to complete his education in an American college. He wished then to study law, that with an honorable profession, he might be able to obtain an independent support.

Upon leaving Harvard College, at the age of twenty, he studied law for three years. In June, 1794, being then but twenty-seven years of age, he was appointed by Washington, resident minister at the Netherlands. Sailing from Boston in July, he reached London in October, where he was immediately admitted to the deliberations of Messrs. Jay and Pinckney, assisting them in negotiating a commercial treaty with Great Britian. After thus spending a fortnight in London, he proceeded to the Hague.

In July, 1797, he left the Hague to go to Portugal as minister plenipotentiary. On his way to Portugal, upon arriving in London, he met with despatches directing him to the court of Berlin, but requesting him to remain in London until he should receive his instructions. While waiting he was married to an American lady to whom he had been previously engaged,—Miss Louisa Catherine Johnson, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, American consul in London; a lady endowed with that beauty and those accomplishment which eminently fitted her to move in the elevated sphere for which she was destined.

He reached Berlin with his wife in November, 1797; where he remained until July, 1799, when, having fulfilled all the purposes of his mission, he solicited his recall.

Soon after his return, in 1802, he was chosen to the Senate of Massachusetts, from Boston, and then was elected Senator of the United States for six years, from the 4th of March, 1804. His reputation, his ability and his experience, placed him immediately among the most prominent and influential members of that body. Especially did he sustain the Government in its measures of resistance to the encroachments of England, destroying our commerce and insulting our flag. There was no man in America more familiar with the arrogance of the British court upon these points, and no one more resolved to present a firm resistance.

In 1809, Madison succeeded Jefferson in the Presidential chair, and he immediately nominated John Quincy Adams minister to St. Petersburg. Resigning his professorship in Harvard College, he embarked at Boston, in August, 1809.

While in Russia, Mr. Adams was an intense student. He devoted his attention to the language and history of Russia; to the Chinese trade; to the European system of weights, measures, and coins; to the climate and astronomical observations; while he kept up a familiar acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics. In all the universities of Europe, a more accomplished scholar could scarcely be found. All through life the Bible constituted an important part of his studies. It was his rule to read five chapters every day.

On the 4th of March, 1817, Mr. Monroe took the Presidential chair, and immediately appointed Mr. Adams Secretary of State. Taking leave of his numerous friends in public and private life in Europe, he sailed in June, 1819, for the United States. On the 18th of August, he again crossed the threshold of his home in Quincy. During the eight years of Mr. Monroe's administration, Mr. Adams continued Secretary of State.

Some time before the close of Mr. Monroe's second term of office, new candidates began to be presented for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Adams brought forward his name. It was an exciting campaign. Party spirit was never more bitter. Two hundred and sixty electoral votes were cast. Andrew Jackson received ninety-nine; John Quincy Adams, eighty-four; William H. Crawford, forty-one; Henry Clay, thirty-seven. As there was no choice by the people, the question went to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clay gave the vote of Kentucky to Mr. Adams, and he was elected.

The friends of all the disappointed candidates now combined in a venomous and persistent assault upon Mr. Adams. There is nothing more disgraceful in the past history of our country than the abuse which was poured in one uninterrupted stream, upon this high-minded, upright, patriotic man. There never was an administration more pure in principles, more conscientiously devoted to the best interests of the country, than that of John Quincy Adams; and never, perhaps, was there an administration more unscrupulously and outrageously assailed.

Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting his own fire and applying himself to work in his library often long before dawn.

On the 4th of March, 1829, Mr. Adams retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Andrew Jackson. John C. Calhoun was elected Vice President. The slavery question now began to assume portentous magnitude. Mr. Adams returned to Quincy and to his studies, which he pursued with unabated zeal. But he was not long permitted to remain in retirement. In November, 1830, he was elected representative to Congress. For seventeen years, until his death, he occupied the post as representative, towering above all his peers, ever ready to do brave battle for freedom, and winning the title of "the old man eloquent." Upon taking his seat in the House, he announced that he should hold himself bound to no party. Probably there never was a member more devoted to his duties. He was usually the first in his place in the morning, and the last to leave his seat in the evening. Not a measure could be brought forward and escape his scrutiny. The battle which Mr. Adams fought, almost singly, against the proslavery party in the Government, was sublime in its moral daring and heroism. For persisting in presenting petitions for the abolition of slavery, he was threatened with indictment by the grand jury, with expulsion from the House, with assassination; but no threats could intimidate him, and his final triumph was complete.

It has been said of President Adams, that when his body was bent and his hair silvered by the lapse of fourscore years, yielding to the simple faith of a little child, he was accustomed to repeat every night, before he slept, the prayer which his mother taught him in his infant years.

On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness, he opened his eyes, looked calmly around and said "*This is the end of earth;*" then after a moment's pause he added, "*I am content.*" These were the last words of the grand "Old Man Eloquent."

Andrew Jackson

ANDREW JACKSON.

ANDREW JACKSON, the seventh President of the United States, was born in Waxhaw settlement, N. C., March 15, 1767, a few days after his father's death. His parents were poor emigrants from Ireland, and took up their abode in Waxhaw settlement, where they lived in deepest poverty.

Andrew, or Andy, as he was universally called, grew up a very rough, rude, turbulent boy. His features were coarse, his form ungainly; and there was but very little in his character, made visible, which was attractive.

When only thirteen years old he joined the volunteers of Carolina against the British invasion. In 1781, he and his brother Robert were captured and imprisoned for a time at Camden. A British officer ordered him to brush his mud-spattered boots. "I am a prisoner of war, not your servant," was the reply of the dauntless boy.

The brute drew his sword, and aimed a desperate blow at the head of the helpless young prisoner. Andrew raised his hand, and thus received two fearful gashes,—one on the hand and the other upon the head. The officer then turned to his brother Robert with the same demand. He also refused, and received a blow from the keen-edged sabre, which quite disabled him, and which probably soon after caused his death. They suffered much other ill-treatment, and were finally stricken with the small-pox. Their mother was successful in obtaining their exchange, and took her sick boys home. After a long illness Andrew recovered, and the death of his mother soon left him entirely friendless.

Andrew supported himself in various ways, such as working at the saddler's trade, teaching school and clerking in a general store, until 1784, when he entered a law office at Salisbury, N. C. He, however, gave more attention to the wild amusements of the times than to his studies. In 1788, he was appointed solicitor for the western district of North Carolina, of which Tennessee was then a part. This involved many long and tedious journeys amid dangers of every kind, but Andrew Jackson never knew fear, and the Indians had no desire to repeat a skirmish with the Sharp Knife.

In 1791, Mr. Jackson was married to a woman who supposed herself divorced from her former husband. Great was the surprise of both parties, two years later, to find that the conditions of the divorce had just been definitely settled by the first husband. The marriage ceremony was performed a second time, but the occurrence was often used by his enemies to bring Mr. Jackson into disfavor.

During these years he worked hard at his profession, and frequently had one or more duels on hand, one of which, when he killed Dickenson, was especially disgraceful.

In January, 1796, the Territory of Tennessee then containing nearly eighty thousand inhabitants, the people met in convention at Knoxville to frame a constitution. Five were sent from each of the eleven counties. Andrew Jackson was one of the delegates. The new State was entitled to but one member in the National House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson was chosen that member. Mounting his horse he rode to Philedelphia, where Congress then held its

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

Jackson was an earnest advocate of the Democratic party. Jefferson was his idol. He admired Bonaparte, loved France and hated England. As Mr. Jackson took his seat, Gen. Washington, whose second term of office was then expiring, delivered his last speech to Congress. A committee drew up a complimentary address in reply. Andrew Jackson did not approve of the address, and was one of the twelve who voted against it. He was not willing to say that Gen. Washington's adminstration had been "wise, firm and patriotic."

Mr. Jackson was elected to the United States Senate in 1797, but soon resigned and returned home. Soon after he was chosen Judge of the Supreme Court of his State, which position he held for six years.

When the war of 1812 with Great Britian commenced, Madison occupied the Presidential chair. Aaron Burr sent word to the President that there was an unknown man in the West, Andrew Jackson, who would do credit to a commission if one were conferred upon him. Just at that time Gen. Jackson offered his services and those of twenty-five hundred volunteers. His offer was accepted, and the troops were assembled at Nashville.

As the British were hourly expected to make an attack upon New Orleans, where Gen. Wilkinson was in command, he was ordered to descend the river with fifteen hundred troops to aid Wilkinson. The expedition reached Natchez; and after a delay of several weeks there, without accomplishing anything, the men were ordered back to their homes. But the energy Gen. Jackson had displayed, and his entire devotion to the comrfort of his soldiers, won him golden opinions; and he became the most popular man in the State. It was in this expedition that his toughness gave him the nickname of "Old Hickory."

Soon after this, while attempting to horsewhip Col. Thomas H. Benton, for a remark that gentleman made about his taking a part as second in a duel, in which a younger brother of Benton's was engaged, he received two severe pistol wounds. While he was lingering upon a bed of suffering news came that the Indians, who had combined under Tecumseh from Florida to the Lakes, to exterminate the white settlers, were committing the most awful ravages. Decisive action became necessary. Gen. Jackson, with his fractured bone just beginning to heal, his arm in a sling, and unable to mount his horse without assistance, gave his amazing energies to the raising of an army to rendezvous at Fayettesville, Alabama.

The Creek Indians had established a strong fort on one of the bends of the Tallapoosa River, near the center of Alabama, about fifty miles below Fort Strother. With an army of two thousand men, Gen. Jackson traversed the pathless wilderness in a march of eleven days. He reached their fort, called Tohopeka or Horse-shoe, on the 27th of March. 1814. The bend of the river enclosed nearly one hundred acres of tangled forest and wild ravine. Across the narrow neck the Indians had constructed a formidable breastwork of logs and brush. Here nine hundred warriors, with an ample suply of arms were assembled.

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly everyone of the nine hundred warrios were killed A few probably, in the night, swam the river and escaped. This ended the war. The power of the Creeks was broken forever. This bold plunge into the wilderness, with its terriffic slaughter, so appalled the savages, that the haggard remnants of the bands came to the camp, begging for peace.

This closing of the Creek war enabled us to concentrate all our militia upon the British, who were the allies of the Indians No man of less resolute will than Gen. Jackson could have conducted this Indian campaign to so successful an issue Immediately he was appointed major-general.

Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one of the ships was blown up and the rest retired.

Garrisoning Mobile, where he had taken his little army, he moved his troops to New Orleans, And the battle of New Orleans which soon ensued, was in reality a very arduous campaign. This won for Gen. Jackson an imperishable name. Here his troops, which numbered about four thousand men, won a signal victory over the British army of about nine thousand. His loss was but thirteen, while the loss of the British was two thousand six hundred.

The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with the most terrible affliction of his life in the death of his wife, whom he had loved with a devotion which has perhaps never been surpassed. From the shock of her death he never recovered.

His administration was one of the most memorable in the annals of our country; applauded by one party, condemned by the other. No man had more bitter enemies or warmer friends. At the expiration of his two terms of office he retired to the Hermitage, where he died June 8, 1845. The last years of Mr. Jackson's life were that of a devoted Christian man.

M Van Buren

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MARTIN VAN BUREN.

MARTIN VAN BUREN, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered or unbounded by shrub or flower.

There is but little in the life of Martin Van Buren of romantic interest. He fought no battles, engaged in no wild adventures. Though his life was stormy in political and intellectual conflicts, and he gained many signal victories, his days passed uneventful in those incidents which give zest to biography. His ancestors, as his name indicates, were of Dutch origin, and were among the earliest emigrants from Holland to the banks of the Hudson. His father was a farmer, residing in the old town of Kinderhook. His mother, also of Dutch lineage, was a woman of superior intelligence and exemplary piety.

He was decidedly a precocious boy, developing unusual activity, vigor and strength of mind. At the age of fourteen, he had finished his academic studies in his native village, and commenced the study of law. As he had not a collegiate education, seven years of study in a law-office were required of him before he could be admitted to the bar. Inspired with a lofty ambition, and conscious of his powers, he pursued his studies with indefatigable industry. After spending six years in an office in his native village, he went to the city of New York, and prosecuted his studies for the seventh year.

In 1803, Mr. Van Buren, then twenty-one years of age, commenced the practice of law in his native village. The great conflict between the Federal and Republican party was then at its height. Mr. Van Buren was from the beginning a politician. He had, perhaps, imbibed that spirit while listening to the many discussions which had been carried on in his father's hotel. He was in cordial sympathy with Jefferson, and earnestly and eloquently espoused the cause of State Rights; though at that time the Federal party held the supremacy both in his town and State.

His success and increasing ruputation led him after six years of practice, to remove to Hudson, the county seat of his county. Here he spent seven years, constantly gaining strength by contending in the courts with some of the ablest men who have adorned the bar of his State.

Just before leaving Kinderhook for Hudson, Mr. Van Buren married a lady alike distinguished for beauty and accomplishments. After twelve short years she sank into the grave, the victim of consumption, leaving her husband and four sons to weep over her loss. For twenty-five years, Mr. Van Buren was an earnest, successful, assiduous lawyer. The record of those years is barren in items of public interest. In 1812, when thirty years of age, he was chosen to the State Senate, and gave his strenuous support to Mr. Madison's adminstration. In 1815, he was appointed Attorney-General, and the next year moved to Albany, the capital of the State.

While he was acknowledged as one of the most prominent leaders of the Democratic party, he had

the moral courage to avow that true democracy did not require that "universal suffrage" which admits the vile, the degraded, the ignorant, to the right of governing the State. In true consistency with his democratic principles, he contended that, while the path leading to the privilege of voting should be open to every man without distinction, no one should be invested with that sacred prerogative, unless he were in some degree qualified for it by intelligence, virtue and some property interests in the welfare of the State.

In 1821 he was elected a member of the United States Senate; and in the same year, he took a seat in the convention to revise the constitution of his native State. His course in this convention secured the approval of men of all parties. No one could doubt the singleness of his endeavors to promote the interests of all classes in the community. In the Senate of the United States, he rose at once to a conspicuous position as an active and useful legislator.

In 1827, John Quincy Adams being then in the Presidential chair, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate. He had been from the beginning a determined opposer of the Administration, adopting the "State Rights" view in opposition to what was deemed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

Soon after this, in 1828, he was chosen Governor of the State of New York, and accordingly resigned his seat in the Senate. Probably no one in the United States contributed so much towards ejecting John Q. Adams from the Presidential chair, and placing in it Andrew Jackson, as did Martin Van Buren. Whether entitled to the reputation or not, he certainly was regarded throughout the United States as one of the most skillful, sagacious and cunning of politicians. It was supposed that no one knew so well as he how to touch the secret springs of action; how to pull all the wires to put his machinery in motion; and how to organize a political army which would, secretly and stealthily accomplish the most gigantic results. By these powers it is said that he outwitted Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and secured results which few thought then could be accomplished.

When Andrew Jackson was elected President he appointed Mr. Van Buren Secretary of State. This position he resigned in 1831, and was immediately appointed Minister to England, where he went the same autumn. The Senate, however, when it met, refused to ratify the nomination, and he returned home, apparently untroubled; was nominated Vice President in the place of Calhoun, at the re-election of President Jackson; and with smiles for all and frowns for none, he took his place at the head of that Senate which had refused to confirm his nomination as ambassador.

His rejection by the Senate roused all the zeal of President Jackson in behalf of his repudiated favorite; and this, probably more than any other cause, secured his elevation to the chair of the Chief Executive. On the 20th of May, 1836, Mr. Van Buren received the Democratic nomination to succeed Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. He was elected by a handsome majority, to the delight of the retiring President. "Leaving New York out of the canvass," says Mr. Parton, "the election of Mr. Van Buren to the Presidency was as much the act of Gen. Jackson as though the Constitution had conferred upon him the power to appoint a successor."

His administration was filled with exciting events. The insurrection in Canada, which threatened to involve this country in war with England, the agitation of the slavery question, and finally the great commercial panic which spread over the country, all were trials to his wisdom. The financial distress was attributed to the management of the Democratic party, and brought the President into such disfavor that he failed of re-election.

With the exception of being nominated for the Presidency by the "Free Soil" Democrats, in 1848, Mr. Van Buren lived quietly upon his estate until his death.

He had ever been a prudent man, of frugal habits, and living within his income, had now fortunately a competence for his declining years. His unblemished character, his commanding abilities, his unquestioned patriotism, and the distinguished positions which he had occupied in the government of our country, secured to him not only the homage of his party, but the respect of the whole community. It was on the 4th of March, 1841, that Mr. Van Buren retired from the presidency. From his fine estate at Lindenwald, he still exerted a powerful influence upon the politics of the country. From this time until his death, on the 24th of July, 1862, at the age of eighty years, he resided at Lindenwald, a gentleman of leisure, of culture and of wealth; enjoying in a healthy old age, probably far more happiness than he had before experienced amid the stormy scenes of his active life.

W. H. Harrison

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, the ninth President of the United States, was born at Berkeley, Va., Feb. 9, 1773. His father, Benjamin Harrison, was in comparatively opulent circumstances, and was one of the most distinguished men of his day. He was an intimate friend of George Washington, was early elected a member of the Continental Congress, and was conspicuous among the patriots of Virginia in resisting the encroachments of the British crown. In the celebrated Congress of 1775, Benjamin Harrison and John Hancock were both candidates for the office of speaker.

Mr Harrison was subsequently chosen Governor of Virginia, and was twice re-elected. His son, William Henry, of course enjoyed in childhood all the advantages which wealth and intellectual and cultivated society could give. Having received a thorough common-school education, he entered Hampden Sidney College, where he graduated with honor soon after the death of his father. He then repaired to Philadelphia to study medicine under the instructions of Dr. Rush and the guardianship of Robert Morris, both of whom were, with his father, signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Upon the outbreak of the Indian troubles, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends, he abandoned his medical studies and entered the army, having obtained a commission of Ensign from President Washington. He was then but 19 years old. From that time he passed gradually upward in rank until he became aid to General Wayne, after whose death he resigned his commission. He was then appointed Secretary of the North-western Territory. This Territory was then entitled to but one member in Congress and Capt. Harrison was chosen to fill that position.

In the spring of 1800 the North-western Territory was divided by Congress into two portions. The eastern portion, comprising the region now embraced in the State of Ohio, was called "The Territory north-west of the Ohio." The western portion, which included what is now called Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, was called the "Indiana Territory." William Henry Harrison, then 27 years of age, was appointed by John Adams, Governor of the Indiana Territory, and immediately after, also Governor of Upper Louisiana. He was thus ruler over almost as extensive a realm as any sovereign upon the globe. He was Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and was invested with powers nearly dictatorial over the now rapidly increasing white population. The ability and fidelity with which he discharged these responsible duties may be inferred from the fact that he was four times appointed to this office—first by John Adams, twice by Thomas Jefferson and afterwards by President Madison.

When he began his adminstration there were but three white settlements in that almost boundless region, now crowded with cities and resounding with all the tumult of wealth and traffic. One of these settlements was on the Ohio, nearly opposite Louisville; one at Vincennes, on the Wabash, and the third a French settlement.

The vast wilderness over which Gov. Harrison reigned was filled with many tribes of Indians. About

the year 1806, two extraordinary men, twin brothers, of the Shawnese tribe, rose among them. One of these was called Tecumseh, or "The Crouching Panther;" the other, Olliwacheca, or "The Prophet." Tecumseh was not only an Indian warrior, but a man of great sagacity, far-reaching foresight and indomitable perseverance in any enterprise in which he might engage. He was inspired with the highest enthusiasm, and had long regarded with dread and with hatred the encroachment of the whites upon the hunting-grounds of his fathers. His brother, the Prophet, was an orator, who could sway the feelings of the untutored Indian as the gale tossed the tree-tops beneath which they dwelt.

But the Prophet was not merely an orator: he was, in the superstitious minds of the Indians, invested with the superhuman dignity of a medicine-man or a magician. With an enthusiasm unsurpassed by Peter the Hermit rousing Europe to the crusades, he went from tribe to tribe, assuming that he was specially sent by the Great Spirit.

Gov. Harrison made many attempts to conciliate the Indians, but at last the war came, and at Tippecanoe the Indians were routed with great slaughter. October 28, 1812, his army began its march. When near the Prophet's town three Indians of rank made their appearance and inquired why Gov. Harrison was approaching them in so hostile an attitude. After a short conference, arrangements were made for a meeting the next day, to agree upon terms of peace.

But Gov. Harrison was too well acquainted with the Indian character to be deceived by such protestations. Selecting a favorable spot for his night's encampment, he took every precaution against surprise. His troops were posted in a hollow square, and slept upon their arms.

The troops threw themselves upon the ground for rest; but every man had his accourtrements on, his loaded musket by his side, and his bayonet fixed. The wakeful Governor, between three and four o'clock in the morning, had risen, and was sitting in conversation with his aids by the embers of a waning fire. It was a chill, cloudy morning with a drizzling rain. In the darkness, the Indians had crept as near as possible, and just then, with a savage yell, rushed, with all the desperation which superstition and passion most highly inflamed could give, upon the left flank of the little army. The savages had been amply provided with guns and ammunition by the English. Their war-whoop was accompained by a shower of bullets.

The camp-fires were instantly extinguished, as the light aided the Indians in their aim. With hideous yells, the Indian bands rushed on, not doubting a speedy and an entire victory. But Gen. Harrison's troops stood as immovable as the rocks around them until day dawned: they then made a simultaneous charge with the bayonet, and swept every thing before them, and completely routing the foe.

Gov. Harrison now had all his energies tasked to the utmost. The British descending from the Canadas, were of themselves a very formidable force; but with their savage allies, rushing like wolves from the forest, searching out every remote farm-house, burning, plundering, scalping, torturing, the wide frontier was plunged into a state of consternation which even the most vivid imagination can but faintly conceive. The war-whoop was resounding everywhere in the forest. The horizon was illuminated with the conflagration of the cabins of the settlers. Gen Hull had made the ignominious surrender of his forces at Detroit. Under these despairing circumstances, Gov. Harrison was appointed by President Madison commander-in-chief of the North-western army, with orders to retake Detroit, and to protect the frontiers.

It would be difficult to place a man in a situation demanding more energy, sagacity and courage; but General Harrison was found equal to the position, and nobly and triumphantly did he meet all the responsibilities.

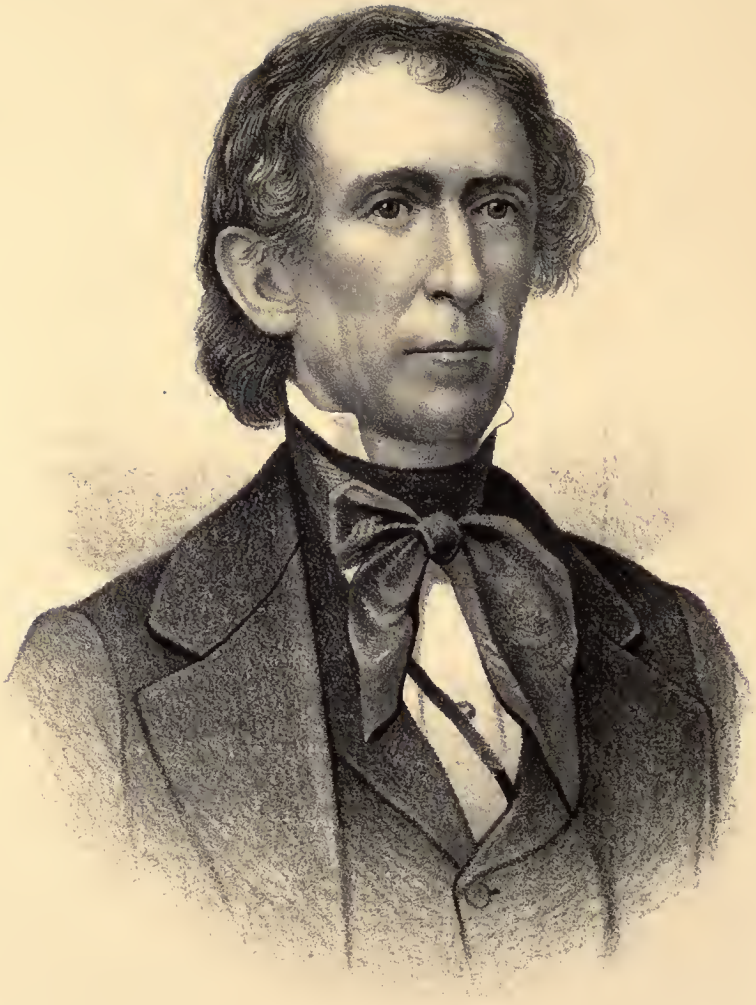
He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after the battle The only fare he could give them was beef roasted before the fire, without bread or salt.

In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency. The contest was very animated. Gen Jackson gave all his influence to prevent Harrison's election; but his triumph was signal.

The cabinet which he formed, with Daniel Webster at its head as Secretary of State, was one of the most brilliant with which any President had ever been surrounded. Never were the prospects of an administration more flattering, or the hopes of the country more sanguine. In the midst of these bright and joyous prospects, Gen. Harrison was seized by a pleurisy-fever and after a few days of violent sickness, died on the 4th of April; just one month after his inauguration as President of the United States.



John Tyler

JOHN TYLER.

JOHN TYLER, the tenth President of the United States. He was born in Charles-city Co., Va., March 29, 1790. He was the favored child of affluence and high social position. At the early age of twelve, John entered William and Mary College and graduated with much honor when but seventeen years old. After graduating, he devoted himself with great assiduity to the study of law, partly with his father and partly with Edmund Randolph, one of the most distinguished lawyers of Virginia.

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote or his county.

When but twenty-six years of age, he was elected a member of Congress. Here he acted earnestly and ably with the Democratic party, opposing a national bank, internal improvements by the General Government, a protective tariff, and advocating a strict construction of the Constitution, and the most careful vigilance over State rights. His labors in Congress were so arduous that before the close of his second term he found it necessary to resign and retire to his estate in Charles-city Co., to recruit his health. He, however, soon after consented to take his seat in the State Legislature, where his influence was powerful in promoting public works of great utility. With a reputation thus canstantly increasing, he was chosen by a very large majority of votes, Governor of his native State. His administration was signally a successful one. His popularity secured his re-election.

John Randolph, a brilliant, erratic, half-crazed man, then represented Virginia in the Senate of the United States. A portion of the Democratic party was displeased with Mr. Randolph's wayward course, and brought forward John Tyler as his opponent, considering him the only man in Virginia of sufficient popularity to succeed against the renowned orator of Roanoke. Mr. Tyler was the victor.

In accordance with his professions, upon taking his seat in the Senate, he joined the ranks of the opposition. He opposed the tariff; he spoke against and voted against the bank as unconstitutional; he strenuously opposed all restrictions upon slavery, resisting all projects of internal improvements by the General Government, and avowed his sympathy with Mr. Calhoun's view of nullification; he declared that Gen. Jackson, by his opposition to the nullifiers, had abandoned the principles of the Democratic party. Such was Mr. Tyler's record in Congress,—a record in perfect accordance with the principles which he had always avowed.

Returning to Virginia, he resumed the practice of his profession. There was a split in the Democratic

party. His friends still regarded him as a true Jeffersonian, gave him a dinner, and showered compliments upon him. He had now attained the age of forty-six. His career had been very brilliant. In consequence of his devotion to public business, his private affairs had fallen into some disorder; and it was not without satisfaction that he resumed the practice of law, and devoted himself to the culture of his plantation. Soon after this he removed to Williamsburg, for the better education of his children; and he again took his seat in the Legislature of Virginia.

By the Southern Whigs, he was sent to the national convention at Harrisburg to nominate a President in 1839. The majority of votes were given to Gen. Harrison, a genuine Whig, much to the disappointment of the South, who wished for Henry Clay. To conciliate the Southern Whigs and to secure their vote, the convention then nominated John Tyler for Vice President. It was well known that he was not in sympathy with the Whig party in the North: but the Vice President has but very little power in the Government, his main and almost only duty being to preside over the meetings of the Senate. Thus it happened that a Whig President, and, in reality, a Democratic Vice President were chosen.

In 1841, Mr. Tyler was inaugurated Vice President of the United States. In one short month from that time, President Harrison died, and Mr. Tyler thus found himself, to his own surprise and that of the whole Nation, an occupant of the Presidential chair. This was a new test of the stability of our institutions, as it was the first time in the history of our country that such an event had occured. Mr. Tyler was at home in Williamsburg when he received the unexpected tidings of the death of President Harrison. He hastened to Washington, and on the 6th of April was inaugurated to the high and responsible office. He was placed in a position of exceeding delicacy and difficulty. All his long life he had been opposed to the main principles of the party which had brought him into power. He had ever been a consistent, honest man, with an unblemished record. Gen. Harrison had selected a Whig cabinet. Should he retain them, and thus surround himself with counsellors whose views were antagonistic to his own? or, on the other hand, should he turn against the party which had elected him and select a cabinet in harmony with himself, and which would oppose all those views which the Whigs deemed essential to the public welfare? This was his fearful dilemma. He invited the cabinet which President Harrison had selected to retain their seats. He reccommended a day of fasting and prayer, that God would guide and bless us.

The Whigs carried through Congress a bill for the incorporation of a fiscal bank of the United States. The President, after ten days' delay, returned it with his veto. He suggested, however, that he would approve of a bill drawn up upon such a plan as he proposed. Such a bill was accordingly prepared, and privately submitted to him. He gave it his approval. It was passed without alteration, and he sent it back with his veto. Here commenced the open rupture. It is said that Mr. Tyler was provoked to this measure by a published letter from the Hon. John M. Botts, a distinguished Virginia Whig, who severely touched the pride of the President.

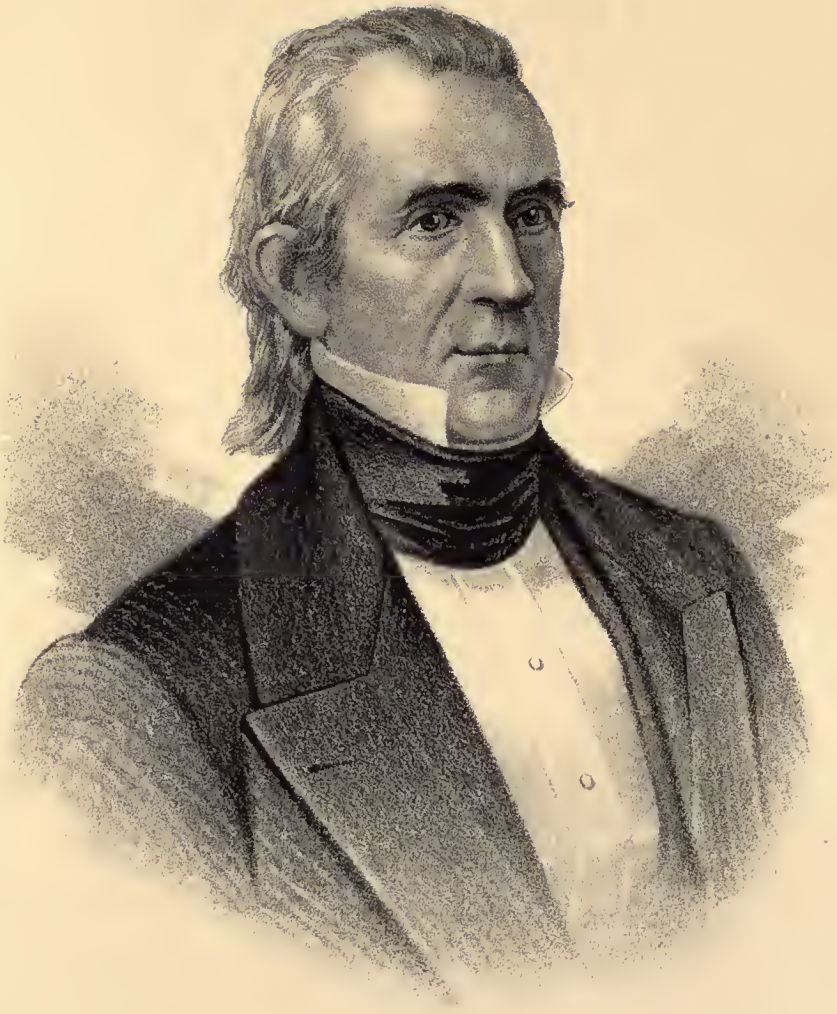
The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United States, proclaiming that all political alliance between the Whigs and President Tyler were at an end.

Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration passed sadly away. No one was satisfied. The land was filled with murmurs and vituperation. Whigs and Democrats alike assailed him. More and more, however, he brought himself into sympathy with his old friends, the Democrats, until at the close of his term, he gave his whole influence to the support of Mr. Polk, the Democratic candidate for his successor.

On the 4th of March, 1845, he retired from the harassments of office, to the regret of neither party, and probably to his own unspeakable relief. His first wife, Miss Letitia Christian, died in Washington, in 1842; and in June, 1844, President Tyler was again married, at New York, to Miss Julia Gardiner, a young lady of many personal and intellectual accomplishments.

The remainder of his days Mr. Tyler passed mainly in retirement at his beautiful home,—Sherwood Forest, Charles-city Co., Va. A polished gentleman in his manners, richly furnished with information from books and experience in the world, and possessing brilliant powers of conversation, his family circle was the scene of unusual attractions. With sufficient means for the exercise of a generous hospitality, he might have enjoyed a serene old age with the few friends who gathered around him, were it not for the storms of civil war which his own principles and policy had helped to introduce.

When the great Rebellion rose, which the State-rights and nullifying doctrines of Mr. John C. Calhoun had inaugurated, President Tyler renounced his allegiance to the United States, and joined the Confederates. He was chosen a member of their Congress; and while engaged in active measures to destroy, by force of arms, the Government over which he had once presided, he was taken sick and soon died.



James K. Polk

JAMES K. POLK.

JAMES K. POLK, the eleventh President of the United States, was born in Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Nov. 2, 1795. His parents were Samuel and Jane (Knox) Polk, the former a son of Col. Thomas Polk, who located at the above place, as one of the first pioneers, in 1735.

In the year 1806, with his wife and children, and soon after followed by most of the members of the Polk famly, Samuel Polk emigrated some two or three hundred miles farther west, to the rich valley of the Duck River. Here in the midst of the wilderness, in a region which was subscquently called Maury Co., they reared their log huts, and established their homes. In the hard toil of a new farm in the wilderness, James K. Polk spent the carly years of his childhood and youth. His father, adding the pursuit of a surveyor to that of a farmer, gradually increased in wealth until he became one of the leading men of the region. His mother was a superior woman, of strong common sense and earnest piety.

Very early in life, James developed a taste for reading and expressed the strongest dcsire to obtain a liberal education. His mother's training had made him methodical in his habits, had taught him punctuality and industry, and had inspired him with lofty principles of morality. His health was frail; and his father, fearing that he might not be able to endure a sedentary life, got a situation for him behind the counter, hoping to fit him for commercial pursuits.

This was to James a bitter disappointment. He had no taste for these dutics, and his daily tasks were irksome in the extreme. He remained in this uncongenial occupation but a few weeks, when at his earnest solicitation his father removed him, and made arrangements for him to prosecute his studies. Soon after he sent him to Murfreesboro Academy. With ardor which could scarcely be surpassed, he pressed forward in his studies, and in less than two and a half years, in the autumn of 1815, entered the sophomore class in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. Here he was one of the most exemplary of scholars, punctual in every exercise, never allowing himself to be absent from a recitation or a religious service.

He graduated in 1818, with the highest honors, being deemed the best scholar of his class, both in mathematics and the classics. He was then twenty-three years of age. Mr. Polk's health was at this time much impaired by the assiduity with which he had prosecuted his studies. After a short season of relaxation he went to Nashville, and entered thc office of Felix Grundy, to study law. Here Mr. Polk renewed his acquaintance with Andrew Jackson, who resided on his plantation, the Hermitage, but a few miles from Nashville. They had probably been slightly acquainted before.

Mr. Polk's father was a Jeffersonian Republican, and James K. Polk ever adhered to the same political faith. He was a popular public speaker, and was constantly called upon to address the meetings of his party friends. His skill as a speaker was such that he was popularly called the Napoleon of the stump. He was a man of unblemished morals, genial and

courteous in his bearing, and with that sympathetic nature in the joys and griefs of others which ever gave him troops of friends. In 1823, Mr. Polk was elected to the Legislature of Tennessee. Here he gave his strong influence towards the election of his friend, Mr. Jackson, to the Presidency of the United States.

In January, 1824, Mr. Polk married Miss Sarah Childress, of Rutherford Co., Tenn. His bride was altogether worthy of him,—a lady of beauty and culture. In the fall of 1825, Mr. Polk was chosen a member of Congress. The satisfaction which he gave to his constituents may be inferred from the fact, that for fourteen successive years, until 1839, he was continued in that office. He then voluntarily withdrew, only that he might accept the Gubernatorial chair of Tennessee. In Congress he was a laborious member, a frequent and a popular speaker. He was always in his seat, always courteous; and whenever he spoke it was always to the point, and without any ambitious rhetorical display.

During five sessions of Congress, Mr. Polk was Speaker of the House. Strong passions were roused, and stormy scenes were witnessed; but Mr. Polk performed his arduous duties to a very general satisfaction, and a unanimous vote of thanks to him was passed by the House as he withdrew on the 4th of March, 1839.

In accordance with Southern usage, Mr. Polk, as a candidate for Governor, canvassed the State. He was elected by a large majority, and on the 14th of October, 1839, took the oath of office at Nashville. In 1841, his term of office expired, and he was again the candidate of the Democratic party, but was defeated.

On the 4th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk was inaugurated President of the United States. The verdict of the country in favor of the annexation of Texas, exerted its influence upon Congress; and the last act of the administration of President Tyler was to affix his signature to a joint resolution of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, approving of the annexation of Texas to the American Union. As Mexico still claimed Texas as one of her provinces, the Mexican minister, Almonte, immediately demanded his passports and left the country, declaring the act of the annexation to be an act hostile to Mexico.

In his first message, President Polk urged that Texas should immediately, by act of Congress, be received into the Union on the same footing with the other States. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor was sent with an army into Texas to hold the country. He was sent first to Nueces, which the Mexicans said was the western boundary of Texas. Then he was sent nearly two hundred miles further west, to the Rio Grande, where he erected batteries which commanded the Mexican city of Matamoras, which was situated on the western banks.

The anticipated collision soon took place, and war was declared against Mexico by President Polk. The war was pushed forward by Mr. Polk's administration with great vigor. Gen. Taylor, whose army was first called one of "observation," then of "occupation," then of "invasion," was sent forward to Monterey. The feeble Mexicans, in every encounter, were hopelessly and awfully slaughtered. The day of judgement alone can reveal the misery which this war caused. It was by the ingenuity of Mr. Polk's administration that the war was brought on.

"To the victors belong the spoils." Mexico was prostrate before us. Her capital was in our hands. We now consented to peace upon the condition that Mexico should surrender to us, in addition to Texas, all of New Mexico, and all of Upper and Lower California. This new demand embraced, exclusive of Texas, eight hundred thousand square miles. This was an extent of territory equal to nine States of the size of New York. Thus slavery was securing eighteen majestic States to be added to the Union. There were some Americans who thought it all right: there were others who thought it all wrong. In the prosecution of this war, we expended twenty thousand lives and more than a hundred million of dollars. Of this money fifteen millions were paid to Mexico.

On the 3d of March, 1849, Mr. Polk retired from office, having served one term. The next day was Sunday. On the 5th, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated as his successor. Mr. Polk rode to the Capitol in the same carriage with Gen. Taylor; and the same evening, with Mrs. Polk, he commenced his return to Tennessee. He was then but fifty-four years of age. He had ever been strictly temperate in all his habits, and his health was good. With an ample fortune, a choice library, a cultivated mind, and domestic ties of the dearest nature, it seemed as though long years of tranquility and happiness were before him. But the cholera—that fearful scourge—was then sweeping up the Valley of the Mississippi. This he contracted, and died on the 15th of June, 1849, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, greatly mourned by his countrymen.

Zachary Taylor

ZACHARY TAYLOR.

ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

In 1808, his father succeeded in obtaining for him the commission of lieutenant in the United States army; and he joined the troops which were stationed at New Orleans under Gen. Wilkinson. Soon after this he married Miss Margaret Smith, a young lady from one of the first families of Maryland.

Immediately after the declaration of war with England, in 1812, Capt. Taylor (for he had then been promoted to that rank) was put in command of Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, about fifty miles above Vincennes. This fort had been built in the wilderness by Gen. Harrison, on his march to Tippecanoe. It was one of the first points of attack by the Indians, led by Tecumseh. Its garrison consisted of a broken company of infantry numbering fifty men, many of whom were sick.

Early in the autumn of 1812, the Indians, stealthily, and in large numbers, moved upon the fort. Their approach was first indicated by the murder of two soldiers just outside of the stockade. Capt. Taylor made every possible preparation to meet the anticipated assault. On the 4th of September, a band of forty painted and plumed savages came to the fort, waving a white flag, and informed Capt. Taylor that in the morning their chief would come to have a talk with him. It was evident that their object was merely to ascertain the state of things at the fort, and Capt. Taylor, well versed in the wiles of the savages, kept them at a distance.

The sun went down; the savages disappeared, the garrison slept upon their arms. One hour before midnight the war-whoop burst from a thousand lips in the forest around, followed by the discharge of musketry, and the rush of the foe. Every man, sick and well, sprang to his post. Every man knew that defeat was not merely death, but in the case of capture, death by the most agonizing and prolonged torture. No pen can describe, no immagination can conceive the scenes which ensued. The savages succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses. Until six o'clock in the morning, this awful conflict continued. The savages then, baffled at every point, and gnashing their teeth with rage, retired. Capt. Taylor, for this gallant defence, was promoted to the rank of major by brevet.

Until the close of the war, Major Taylor was placed in such situations that he saw but little more of active service. He was sent far away into the depths of the wilderness, to Fort Crawford, on Fox River, which empties into Green Bay. Here there was but little to be done but to wear away the tedious hours as one best could. There were no books, no society, no in-

tellectual stimulus. Thus with him the uneventful years rolled on Gradually he rose to the rank of colonel. In the Black-Hawk war, which resulted in the capture of that renowned chieftain, Col Taylor took a subordinate but a brave and efficient part.

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1836, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

After two years of such wearisome employment amidst the everglades of the peninsula, Gen. Taylor obtained, at his own request, a change of command, and was stationed over the Department of the Southwest. This field embraced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Establishing his headquarters at Fort Jessup, in Louisiana, he removed his family to a plantation which he purchased, near Baton Rogue. Here he remained for five years, buried, as it were, from the world, but faithfully discharging every duty imposed upon him.

In 1846, Gen. Taylor was sent to guard the land between the Nueces and Rio Grande, the latter river being the boundary of Texas, which was then claimed by the United States. Soon the war with Mexico was brought on, and at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Gen. Taylor won brilliant victories over the Mexicans. The rank of major-general by brevet was then conferred upon Gen. Taylor, and his name was received with enthusiasm almost everywhere in the Nation. Then came the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista in which he won signal victories over forces much larger than he commanded.

His careless habits of dress and his unaffected simplicity, secured for Gen. Taylor among his troops, the *sobriquet* of "Old Rough and Ready.'

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unlettered, honest soldier as their candidate for the Presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name had never been heard of, save in connection with Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey and Buena Vista. It is said that Daniel Webster, in his haste remarked, "It is a nomination not fit to be made."

Gen. Taylor was not an eloquent speaker nor a fine writer. His friends took possession of him, and prepared such few communications as it was needful should be presented to the public. The popularity of the successful warrior swept the land. He was triumphantly elected over two opposing candidates,—Gen. Cass and Ex-President Martin Van Buren. Though he selected an excellent cabinet, the good old man found himself in a very uncongenial position, and was, at times, sorely perplexed and harassed. His mental sufferings were very severe, and probably tended to hasten his death. The pro-slavery party was pushing its claims with tireless energy; expeditions were fitting out to capture Cuba; California was pleading for admission to the Union, while slavery stood at the door to bar her out. Gen. Taylor found the political conflicts in Washington to be far more trying to the nerves than battles with Mexicans or Indians.

In the midst of all these troubles, Gen. Taylor, after he had occupied the Presidential chair but little over a year, took cold, and after a brief sickness of but little over five days, died on the 9th of July, 1850. His last words were, "I am not afraid to die. I am ready. I have endeavored to do my duty." He died universally respected and beloved. An honest, unpretending man, he had been steadily growing in the affections of the people; and the Nation bitterly lamented his death.

Gen. Scott, who was thoroughly acquainted with Gen. Taylor, gave the following graphic and truthful description of his character:—"With a good store of common sense, Gen. Taylor's mind had not been enlarged and refreshed by reading, or much converse with the world. Rigidity of ideas was the consequence. The frontiers and small military posts had been his home. Hence he was quite ignorant for his rank, and quite bigoted in his ignorance. His simplicity was child-like. and with innumerable prejudices, amusing and incorrigible, well suited to the tender age. Thus, if a man, however respectable, chanced to wear a coat of an unusual color, or his hat a little on one side of his head; or an officer to leave a corner of his handkerchief dangling from an outside pocket,—in any such case, this critic held the offender to be a coxcomb (perhaps something worse), whom he would not, to use his oft repeated phrase, 'touch with a pair of tongs.'

"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short, few men have ever had a more comfortable, labor-saving contempt for learning of every kind."

Millard Fillmore

MILLARD FILLMORE.

MILLARD FILLMORE, thirteenth President of the United States, was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga Co., N. Y., on the 7th of January, 1800. His father was a farmer, and owing to misfortune, in humble circumstances. Of his mother, the daughter of Dr. Abiathar Millard, of Pittsfield, Mass., it has been said that she possessed an intellect of very high order, united with much personal loveliness, sweetness of disposition, graceful manners and exquisite sensibilities. She died in 1831; having lived to see her son a young man of distinguished promise, though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

In consequence of the secluded home and limited means of his father, Millard enjoyed but slender advantages for education in his early years. The common schools, which he occasionally attended were very imperfect institutions; and books were scarce and expensive. There was nothing then in his character to indicate the brilliant career upon which he was about to enter. He was a plain farmer's boy; intelligent, good-looking, kind-hearted. The sacred influences of home had taught him to revere the Bible, and had laid the foundations of an upright character. When fourteen years of age, his father sent him some hundred miles from home, to the then wilds of Livingston County, to learn the trade of a clothier. Near the mill there was a small villiage, where some enterprising man had commenced the collection of a village library. This proved an inestimable blessing to young Fillmore. His evenings were spent in reading. Soon every leisure moment was occupied with books. His thirst for knowledge became insatiate; and the selections which he made were continually more elevating and instructive. He read history, biography, oratory, and thus gradually there was enkindled in his heart a desire to be something more than a mere worker with his hands; and he was becoming, almost unknown to himself, a well-informed, educated man.

The young clothier had now attained the age of nineteen years, and was of fine personal appearance and of gentlemanly demeanor. It so happened that there was a gentleman in the neighborhood of ample pecuniary means and of benevolence,—Judge Walter Wood,—who was struck with the prepossessing appearance of young Fillmore. He made his acquaintance, and was so much impressed with his ability and attainments that he advised him to abandon his trade and devote himself to the study of the law. The young man replied, that he had no means of his own, no friends to help him and that his previous education had been very imperfect. But Judge Wood had so much confidence in him that he kindly offered to take him into his own office, and to loan him such money as he needed. Most gratefully the generous offer was accepted.

There is in many minds a strange delusion about a collegiate education. A young man is supposed to be liberally educated if he has graduated at some college. But many a boy loiters through university hall; and then enters a law office, who is by no means as

well prepared to prosecute his legal studies as was Millard Fillmore when he graduated at the clothing-mill at the end of four years of manual labor, during which every leisure moment had been devoted to intense mental culture.

In 1823, when twenty-three years of age, he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas. He then went to the village of Aurora, and commenced the practice of law. In this secluded, peaceful region, his practice of course was limited, and there was no opportunity for a sudden rise in fortune or in fame. Here, in the year 1826, he married a lady of great moral worth, and one capable of adorning any station she might be called to fill,—Miss Abigail Powers.

His elevation of character, his untiring industry, his legal acquirements, and his skill as an advocate, gradually attracted attention; and he was invited to enter into partnership under highly advantageous circumstances, with an elder member of the bar in Buffalo. Just before removing to Buffalo, in 1829, he took his seat in the House of Assembly, of the State of New York, as a representative from Erie County. Though he had never taken a very active part in politics, his vote and his sympathies were with the Whig party. The State was then Democratic, and he found himself in a helpless minority in the Legislature, still the testimony comes from all parties, that his courtesy, ability and integrity, won, to a very unusual degree the respect of his associates.

In the autumn of 1832, he was elected to a seat in the United States Congress. He entered that troubled arena in some of the most tumultuous hours of our national history. The great conflict respecting the national bank and the removal of the deposits, was then raging.

His term of two years closed; and he returned to his profession, which he pursued with increasing reputation and success. After a lapse of two years he again became a candidate for Congress; was re-elected, and took his seat in 1837. His past experience as a representative gave him strength and confidence. The first term of service in Congress to any man can be but little more than an introduction. He was now prepared for active duty. All his energies were brought to bear upon the public good. Every measure received his impress.

Mr. Fillmore was now a man of wide repute, and his popularity filled the State, and in the year 1847, he was elected Comptroller of the State.

Mr. Fillmore had attained the age of forty-seven years. His labors at the bar, in the Legislature, in Congress and as Comptroller, had given him very considerable fame. The Whigs were casting about to find suitable candidates for President and Vice-President at the approaching election. Far away, on the waters of the Rio Grande, there was a rough old soldier, who had fought one or two successful battles with the Mexicans, which had caused his name to be proclaimed in trumpet-tones all over the land. But it was necessary to associate with him on the same ticket some man of reputation as a statesman.

Under the influence of these considerations, the names of Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore became the rallying-cry of the Whigs, as their candidates for President and Vice-Peesident. The Whig ticket was signally triumphant. On the 4th of March, 1849, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated President, and Millard Fillmore Vice-President, of the United States.

On the 9th of July, 1850, President Taylor, but about one year and four months after his inauguration, was suddenly taken sick and died. By the Constitution, Vice-President Fillmore thus became President. He appointed a very able cabinet, of which the illustrious Daniel Webster was Secretary of State.

Mr. Fillmore had very serious difficulties to contend with, since the opposition had a majority in both Houses. He did everything in his power to conciliate the South; but the pro-slavery party in the South felt the inadequacy of all measures of transient conciliation. The population of the free States was so rapidly increasing over that of the slave States that it was inevitable that the power of the Government should soon pass into the hands of the free States. The famous compromise measures were adopted under Mr. Fillmore's adminstration, and the Japan Expedition was sent out. On the 4th of March, 1853, Mr. Fillmore, having served one term, retired.

In 1856, Mr. Fillmore was nominated for the Presidency by the "Know Nothing" party, but was beaten by Mr. Buchanan. After that Mr. Fillmore lived in retirement. During the terrible conflict of civil war, he was mostly silent. It was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather with those who were endeavoring to overthrow our institutions. President Fillmore kept aloof from the conflict, without any cordial words of cheer to the one party or the other. He was thus forgotten by both. He lived to a ripe old age, and died in Buffalo. N. Y., March 8, 1874.

Franklin Pierce

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

FRANKLIN PIERCE, the fourteenth President of the United States, was born in Hillsborough, N. H., Nov. 23, 1804. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, who, with his own strong arm, hewed out a home in the wilderness. He was a man of inflexible integrity; of strong, though uncultivated mind, and an uncompromising Democrat. The mother of Franklin Pierce was all that a son could desire,—an intelligent, prudent, affectionate, Christian woman. Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

Franklin was a very bright and handsome boy, generous, warm-hearted and brave. He won alike the love of old and young. The boys on the play ground loved him. His teachers loved him. The neighbors looked upon him with pride and affection. He was by instinct a gentleman; always speaking kind words, doing kind deeds, with a peculiar unstudied tact which taught him what was agreeable. Without developing any precocity of genius, or any unnatural devotion to books, he was a good scholar; in body, in mind, in affections, a finely-developed boy.

When sixteen years of age, in the year 1820, he entered Bowdoin College, at Brunswick, Me He was one of the most popular young men in the college. The purity of his moral character, the unvarying courtesy of his demeanor, his rank as a scholar, and genial nature, rendered him a universal favorite. There was something very peculiarly winning in his address, and it was evidently not in the slightest degree studied: it was the simple outgushing of his own magnanimous and loving nature.

Upon graduating, in the year 1824, Franklin Pierce commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Woodbury, one of the most distinguished lawyers of the State, and a man of great private worth. The eminent social qualities of the young lawyer, his father's prominence as a public man, and the brilliant political career into which Judge Woodbury was entering, all tended to entice Mr. Pierce into the facinating yet perilous path of political life. With all the ardor of his nature he espoused the cause of Gen. Jackson for the Presidency. He commenced the practice of law in Hillsborough, and was soon elected to represent the town in the State Legislature. Here he served for four years. The last two years he was chosen speaker of the house by a very large vote.

In 1833, at the age of twenty-nine, he was elected a member of Congress. Without taking an active part in debates, he was faithful and laborious in duty, and ever rising in the estimation of those with whom he was associatad.

In 1837, being then but thirty-three years of age, he was elected to the Senate of the United States; taking his seat just as Mr. Van Buren commenced his administration. He was the youngest member in the Senate. In the year 1834, he married Miss Jane Means Appleton, a lady of rare beauty and accomplishments, and one admirably fitted to adorn every station with which her husband was honored. Of the

three sons who were born to them, all now sleep with their parents in the grave.

In the year 1838, Mr. Pierce, with growing fame and increasing business as a lawyer, took up his residence in Concord, the capital of New Hampshire. President Polk, upon his accession to office, appointed Mr. Pierce attorney-general of the United States; but the offer was declined, in consequence of numerous professional engagements at home, and the precariuos state of Mrs. Pierce's health. He also, about the same time declined the nomination for governor by the Democratic party. The war with Mexico called Mr. Pierce in the army. Receiving the appointment of brigadier-general, he embarked, with a portion of his troops, at Newport, R. I., on the 27th of May, 1847. He took an important part in this war, proving himself a brave and true soldier.

When Gen. Pierce reached his home in his native State, he was received enthusiastically by the advocates of the Mexican war, and coldly by his opponents. He resumed the practice of his profession, very frequently taking an active part in political questions, giving his cordial support to the pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party. The compromise measures met cordially with his approval; and he strenuously advocated the enforcement of the infamous fugitive-slave law, which so shocked the religious sensibilities of the North. He thus became distinguished as a "Northern man with Southern principles." The strong partisans of slavery in the South consequently regarded him as a man whom they could safely trust in office to carry out their plans.

On the 12th of June, 1852, the Democratic convention met in Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. For four days they continued in session, and in thirty-five ballotings no one had obtained a two-thirds vote. Not a vote thus far had been thrown for Gen. Pierce. Then the Virginia delegation brought forward his name. There were fourteen more ballotings, during which Gen. Pierce constantly gained strength, until, at the forty-ninth ballot, he received two hundred and eighty-two votes, and all other candidates eleven. Gen. Winfield Scott was the Whig candidate. Gen. Pierce was chosen with great unanimity. Only four States—Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Tennessee—cast their electoral votes against him Gen. Franklin Pierce was therefore inaugurated President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1853.

His administration proved one of the most stormy our country had ever experienced. The controversy between slavery and freedom was then approaching its culminating point. It became evident that there was an "irrepressible conflict" between them, and that this Nation could not long exist "half slave and half free." President Pierce, during the whole of his administration, did every thing he could to conciliate the South; but it was all in vain. The conflict every year grew more violent, and threats of the dissolution of the Union were borne to the North on every Southern breeze.

Such was the condition of affairs when President Pierce approached the close of his four-years' term of office. The North had become thoroughly alienated from him. The anti-slavery sentiment, goaded by great outrages, had been rapidly increasing; all the intellectual ability and social worth of President Pierce were forgotten in deep reprehension of his administrative acts. The slaveholders of the South, also, unmindful of the fidelity with which he had advocated those measures of Government which they approved, and perhaps, also, feeling that he had rendered himself so unpopular as no longer to be able acceptably to serve them, ungratefully dropped him, and nominated James Buchanan to succeed him.

On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been killed before his eyes by a railroad accident; and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The hour of dreadful gloom soon came, and he was left alone in the world, without wife or child.

When the terrible Rebellion burst forth, which divided our country into two parties, and two only, Mr. Pierce remained steadfast in the principles which he had always cherished, and gave his sympathies to that pro-slavery party with which he had ever been allied. He declined to do anything, either by voice or pen, to strengthen the hand of the National Government. He continued to reside in Concord until the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1869. He was one of the most genial and social of men, an honored communicant of the Episcopal Church, and one of the kindest of neighbors. Generous to a fault, he contributed liberally for the alleviation of suffering and want, and many of his townspeople were often gladdened by his material bounty.

James Buchanan

JAMES BUCHANAN.

JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghanies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers enabled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

In the year 1809, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He was then eighteen years of age; tall and graceful, vigorous in health, fond of athletic sport, an unerring shot, and enlivened with an exuberant flow of animal spirits. He immediately commenced the study of law in the city of Lancaster, and was admitted to the bar in 1812, when he was but twenty-one years of age. Very rapidly he rose in his profession, and at once took undisputed stand with the ablest lawyers of the State. When but twenty-six years of age, unaided by counsel, he successfully defended before the State Senate one of the judges of the State, who was tried upon articles of impeachment. At the age of thirty it was generally admitted that he stood at the head of the bar; and there was no lawyer in the State who had a more lucrative practice.

In 1820, he reluctantly consented to run as a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and for ten years he remained a member of the Lower House. During the vacations of Congress, he occasionally tried some important case. In 1831, he retired altogether from the toils of his profession, having acquired an ample fortune.

Gen. Jackson, upon his elevation to the Presidency, appointed Mr. Buchanan minister to Russia. The duties of his mission he performed with ability, which gave satisfaction to all parties. Upon his return, in 1833, he was elected to a seat in the United States Senate. He there met, as his associates, Webster, Clay, Wright and Calhoun. He advocated the measures proposed by President Jackson, of making repri-

sals against France, to enforce the payment of our claims against that country; and defended the course of the President in his unprecedented and wholesale removal from office of those who were not the supporters of his administration. Upon this question he was brought into direct collision with Henry Clay. He also, with voice and vote, advocated expunging from the journal of the Senate the vote of censure against Gen. Jackson for removing the deposits. Earnestly he opposed the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and urged the prohibition of the circulation of anti-slavery documents by the United States mails.

As to petitions on the subject of slavery, he advocated that they should be respectfully received; and that the reply should be returned, that Congress had no power to legislate upon the subject. "Congress," said he, "might as well undertake to interfere with slavery under a foreign government as in any of the States where it now exists."

Upon Mr. Polk's accession to the Presidency, Mr. Buchanan became Secretary of State, and as such, took his share of the responsibility in the conduct of the Mexican War. Mr. Polk assumed that crossing the Nueces by the American troops into the disputed territory was not wrong, but for the Mexicans to cross the Rio Grande into that territory was a declaration of war. No candid man can read with pleasure the account of the course our Government pursued in that movement.

Mr. Buchanan identified himself thoroughly with the party devoted to the perpetuation and extension of slavery, and brought all the energies of his mind to bear against the Wilmot Proviso. He gave his cordial approval to the compromise measures of 1850, which included the fugitive-slave law. Mr. Pierce, upon his election to the Presidency, honored Mr. Buchanan with the mission to England.

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,340,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

Mr. Buchanan was far advanced in life. Only four years were wanting to fill up his threescore years and ten. His own friends, those with whom he had been allied in political principles and action for years, were seeking the destruction of the Government, that they might rear upon the ruins of our free institutions a nation whose corner-stone should be human slavery. In this emergency, Mr. Buchanan was hopelessly bewildered He could not, with his long-avowed principles, consistently oppose the State-rights party in their assumptions. As President of the United States, bound by his oath faithfully to administer the laws, he could not, without perjury of the grossest kind, unite with those endeavoring to overthrow the republic. He therefore did nothing.

The opponents of Mr. Buchanan's administration nominated Abraham Lincoln as their standard bearer in the next Presidential canvass. The pro-slavery party declared, that if he were elected, and the control of the Government were thus taken from their hands, they would secede from the Union, taking with them, as they retired, the National Capitol at Washington, and the lion's share of the territory of the United States.

Mr. Buchanan's sympathy with the pro-slavery party was such, that he had been willing to offer them far more than they had ventured to claim. All the South had professed to ask of the North was non-intervention upon the subject of slavery. Mr. Buchanan had been ready to offer them the active co-operation of the Government to defend and extend the institution.

As the storm increased in violence, the slaveholders claiming the right to secede, and Mr. Buchanan avowing that Congress had no power to prevent it, one of the most pitiable exhibitions of governmental imbecility was exhibited the world has ever seen. He declared that Congress had no power to enforce its laws in any State which had withdrawn, or which was attempting to withdraw from the Union. This was not the doctrine of Andrew Jackson, when, with his hand upon his sword-hilt, he exclaimed, "The Union must and shall be preserved!"

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860; nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Fort Sumpter was besieged; our forts, navy-yards and arsenals were seized; our depots of military stores were plundered; and our custom-houses and post-offices were appropriated by the rebels.

The energy of the rebels, and the imbecility of our Executive, were alike marvelous. The Nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away, and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to receive the scepter.

The administration of President Buchanan was certainly the most calamitous our country has experienced. His best friends cannot recall it with pleasure. And still more deplorable it is for his fame, that in that dreadful conflict which rolled its billows of flame and blood over our whole land, no word came from his lips to indicate his wish that our country's banner should triumph over the flag of the rebellion. He died at his Wheatland retreat, June 1, 1868.

Your friend & ever
A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. About the year 1780, a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln left Virginia with his family and moved into the then wilds of Kentucky. Only two years after this emigration, still a young man, while working one day in a field, was stealthily approached by an Indian and shot dead. His widow was left in extreme poverty with five little children, three boys and two girls. Thomas, the youngest of the boys, was four years of age at his father's death. This Thomas was the father of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States whose name must henceforth forever be enrolled with the most prominent in the annals of our world.

Of course no record has been kept of the life of one so lowly as Thomas Lincoln. He was among the poorest of the poor. His home was a wretched log-cabin; his food the coarsest and the meanest. Education he had none; he could never either read or write. As soon as he was able to do anything for himself, he was compelled to leave the cabin of his starving mother, and push out into the world, a friendless, wandering boy, seeking work. He hired himself out, and thus spent the whole of his youth as a laborer in the fields of others.

When twenty-eight years of age he built a log-cabin of his own, and married Nancy Hanks, the daughter of another family of poor Kentucky emigrants, who had also come from Virginia. Their second child was Abraham Lincoln, the subject of this sketch. The mother of Abraham was a noble woman, gentle, loving, pensive, created to adorn a palace, doomed to toil and pine, and die in a hovel. "All that I am, or hope to be," exclaims the grateful son "I owe to my angel-mother."

When he was eight years of age, his father sold his cabin and small farm, and moved to Indiana. Where two years later his mother died.

Abraham soon became the scribe of the uneducated community around him. He could not have had a better school than this to teach him to put thoughts into words. He also became an eager reader. The books he could obtain were few; but these he read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory.

As the years rolled on, the lot of this lowly family was the usual lot of humanity. There were joys and griefs, weddings and funerals. Abraham's sister Sarah, to whom he was tenderly attached, was married when a child of but fourteen years of age, and soon died. The family was gradually scattered. Mr. Thomas Lincoln sold out his squatter's claim in 1830, and emigrated to Macon Co., Ill.

Abraham Lincoln was then twenty-one years of age. With vigorous hands he aided his father in rearing another log-cabin. Abraham worked diligently at this until he saw the family comfortably settled, and their small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education, and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

Young Abraham worked for a time as a hired laborer among the farmers. Then he went to Springfield, where he was employed in building a large flat-boat. In this he took a herd of swine, floated them down the Sangamon to the Illinois, and thence by the Mississippi to New Orleans. Whatever Abraham Lincoln undertook, he performed so faithfully as to give great satisfaction to his employers. In this adven-

ture his employers were so well pleased, that upon his return they placed a store and mill under his care.

In 1832, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, he enlisted and was chosen captain of a company. He returned to Sangamon County, and although only 23 years of age, was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. He soon after received from Andrew Jackson the appointment of Postmaster of New Salem, His only post-office was his hat. All the letters he received he carried there ready to deliver to those he chanced to meet. He studied surveying, and soon made this his business. In 1834 he again became a candidate for the Legislature, and was elected Mr. Stuart, of Springfield, advised him to study law. He walked from New Salem to Springfield, borrowed of Mr. Stuart a load of books, carried them back and began his legal studies. When the Legislature assembled he trudged on foot with his pack on his back one hundred miles to Vandalia, then the capital. In 1836 he was re-elected to the Legislature. Here it was he first met Stephen A. Douglas. In 1839 he removed to Springfield and began the practice of law. His success with the jury was so great that he was soon engaged in almost every noted case in the circuit.

In 1854 the great discussion began between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas, on the slavery question. In the organization of the Republican party in Illinois, in 1856, he took an active part, and at once became one of the leaders in that party. Mr. Lincoln's speeches in opposition to Senator Douglas in the contest in 1858 for a seat in the Senate, form a most notable part of his history. The issue was on the slavery question, and he took the broad ground of the Declaration of Independence, that all men are created equal. Mr. Lincoln was defeated in this contest, but won a far higher prize.

The great Republican Convention met at Chicago on the 16th of June, 1860. The delegates and strangers who crowded the city amounted to twenty-five thousand. An immense building called "The Wigwam," was reared to accommodate the Convention. There were eleven candidates for whom votes were thrown. William H. Seward, a man whose fame as a statesman had long filled the land, was the most prominent. It was generally supposed he would be the nominee. Abraham Lincoln, however, received the nomination on the third ballot. Little did he then dream of the weary years of toil and care, and the bloody death, to which that nomination doomed him: and as little did he dream that he was to render services to his country, which would fix upon him the eyes of the whole civilized world, and which would give him a place in the affections of his countrymen, second only, if second, to that of Washington.

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 203 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tirade of abuse that was poured upon this good and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern States had already seceded, and several attempts at assassination were afterwards brought to light. A gang in Baltimore had arranged, upon his arrival to "get up a row," and in the confusion to make sure of his death with revolvers and hand-grenades. A detective unravelled the plot. A secret and special train was provided to take him from Harrisburg, through Baltimore, at an unexpected hour of the night. The train started at half-past ten; and to prevent any possible communication on the part of the Secessionists with their Confederate gang in Baltimore, as soon as the train had started the telegraph-wires were cut. Mr. Lincoln reached Washington in safety and was inaugurated, although great anxiety was felt by all loyal people.

In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

During no other administration have the duties devolving upon the President been so manifold, and the responsibilities so great, as those which fell to the lot of President Lincoln. Knowing this, and feeling his own weakness and inability to meet, and in his own strength to cope with, the difficulties, he learned early to seek Divine wisdom and guidance in determining his plans, and Divine comfort in all his trials, both personal and national Contrary to his own estimate of himself, Mr. Lincoln was one of the most courageous of men. He went directly into the rebel capital just as the retreating foe was leaving, with no guard but a few sailors. From the time he had left Springfield, in 1861, however, plans had been made for his assassination, and he at last fell a victim to one of them. April 14, 1865, he, with Gen. Grant, was urgently invited to attend Fords' Theater. It was announced that they would be present. Gen. Grant, however, left the city. President Lincoln, feeling, with his characteristic kindliness of heart, that it would be a disappointment if he should fail them, very reluctantly consented to go. While listening to the play an actor by the name of John Wilkes Booth entered the box where the President and family were seated, and fired a bullet into his brains. He died the next morning at seven o'clock.

Never before, in the history of the world was a nation plunged into such deep grief by the death of its ruler Strong men met in the streets and wept in speechless anguish. It is not too much to say that a nation was in tears. His was a life which will fitly become a model. His name as the savior of his country will live with that of Washington's, its father; his countrymen being unable to decide which is the greater.

Andrew Johnson

ANDREW JOHNSON.

ANDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

He then, having never attended a school one day, and being unable either to read or write, was apprenticed to a tailor in his native town. A gentleman was in the habit of going to the tailor's shop occasionally, and reading to the boys at work there. He often read from the speeches of distinguished British statesmen. Andrew, who was endowed with a mind of more than ordinary native ability, became much interested in these speeches; his ambition was roused, and he was inspired with a strong desire to learn to read.

He accordingly applied himself to the alphabet, and with the assistance of some of his fellow-workmen, learned his letters. He then called upon the gentleman to borrow the book of speeches. The owner, pleased with his zeal, not only gave him the book but assisted him in learning to combine the letters into words. Under such difficulties he pressed onward laboriously, spending usually ten or twelve hours at work in the shop, and then robbing himself of rest and recreation to devote such time as he could to reading.

He went to Tennessee in 1826, and located at Greenville, where he married a young lady who possessed some education. Under her instructions he learned to write and cipher. He became prominent in the village debating society, and a favorite with the students of Greenville College. In 1828, he organized a working man's party, which elected him alderman, and in 1830 elected him mayor, which position he held three years.

He now began to take a lively interest in political affairs; identifying himself with the working-classes, to which he belonged. In 1835, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Tennessee. He was then just twenty-seven years of age. He became a very active member of the legislature, gave his adhesion to the Democratic party, and in 1840 "stumped the State," advocating Martin Van Buren's claims to the Presidency, in opposition to those of Gen. Harrison. In this campaign he acquired much readiness as a speaker, and extended and increased his reputation.

In 1841, he was elected State Senator; in 1843, he was elected a member of Congress, and by successive elections, held that important post for ten years. In 1853, he was elected Governor of Tennessee, and was re-elected in 1855. In all these responsible positions, he discharged his duties with distinguished abi-

ity, and proved himself the warm friend of the working classes. In 1857, Mr. Johnson was elected United States Senator.

Years before, in 1845, he had warmly advocated the annexation of Texas, stating however, as his reason, that he thought this annexation would probably prove "to be the gateway out of which the sable sons of Africa are to pass from bondage to freedom, and become merged in a population congenial to themselves." In 1850, he also supported the compromise measures, the two essential features of which were, that the white people of the Territories should be permitted to decide for themselves whether they would enslave the colored people or not, and that the free States of the North should return to the South persons who attempted to escape from slavery.

Mr. Johnson was never ashamed of his lowly origin: on the contrary, he often took pride in avowing that he owed his distinction to his own exertions. "Sir," said he on the floor of the Senate, "I do not forget that I am a mechanic; neither do I forget that Adam was a tailor and sewed fig-leaves, and that our Savior was the son of a carpenter."

In the Charleston-Baltimore convention of 1860, he was the choice of the Tennessee Democrats for the Presidency. In 1861, when the purpose of the Southern Democracy became apparent, he took a decided stand in favor of the Union, and held that "slavery must be held subordinate to the Union at whatever cost." He returned to Tennessee, and repeatedly imperiled his own life to protect the Unionists of Tennesee. Tennessee having seceded from the Union, President Lincoln, on March 4th, 1862, appointed him Military Governor of the State, and he established the most stringent military rule. His numerous proclamations attracted wide attention. In 1864, he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and upon the death of Mr. Lincoln, April 15, 1865, became President. In a speech two days later he said, "The American people must be taught, if they do not already feel, that treason is a crime and must be punished; that the Government will not always bear with its enemies; that it is strong not only to protect, but to punish. * * The people must understand that it (treason) is the blackest of crimes, and will surely be punished." Yet his whole administration, the history of which is so well known, was in utter inconsistency with, and the most violent opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

In his loose policy of reconstruction and general amnesty, he was opposed by Congress; and he characterized Congress as a new rebellion, and lawlessly defied it, in everything possible, to the utmost. In the beginning of 1868, on account of "high crimes and misdemeanors," the principal of which was the removal of Secretary Stanton, in violation of the Tenure of Office Act, articles of impeachment were preferred against him, and the trial began March 23.

It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote was necessary to his condemnation, he was pronounced acquitted, notwithstanding the great majority against him. The change of one vote from the *not guilty* side would have sustained the impeachment.

The President, for the remainder of his term, was but little regarded. He continued, though impotently, his conflict with Congress. His own party did not think it expedient to renominate him for the Presidency. The Nation rallied, with enthusiasm unparalleled since the days of Washington, around the name of Gen. Grant. Andrew Johnson was forgotten. The bullet of the assassin introduced him to the President's chair. Notwithstanding this, never was there presented to a man a better opportunity to immortalize his name, and to win the gratitude of a nation. He failed utterly. He retired to his home in Greenville, Tenn., taking no very active part in politics until 1875. On Jan. 26, after an exciting struggle, he was chosen by the Legislature of Tennessee, United States Senator in the forty-fourth Congress, and took his seat in that body, at the special session convened by President Grant, on the 5th of March. On the 27th of July, 1875, the ex-President made a visit to his daughter's home, near Carter Station, Tenn. When he started on his journey, he was apparently in his usual vigorous health, but on reaching the residence of his child the following day, was stricken with paralysis, rendering him unconscious. He rallied occasionally, but finally passed away at 2 A. M., July 31, aged sixty-seven years. His funeral was attended at Geenville, on the 3d of August, with every demonstration of respect.

U. S. Grant

ULYSSES S. GRANT.

ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

The war with Mexico came. Lieut. Grant was sent with his regiment to Corpus Christi. His first battle was at Palo Alto. There was no chance here for the exhibition of either skill or heroism, nor at Resaca de la Palma, his second battle. At the battle of Monterey, his third engagement, it is said that he performed a signal service of daring and skillful horsemanship. His brigade had exhausted its ammunition. A messenger must be sent for more, along a route exposed to the bullets of the foe. Lieut. Grant, adopting an expedient learned of the Indians, grasped the mane of his horse, and hanging upon one side of the animal, ran the gauntlet in entire safety.

From Monterey he was sent, with the fourth infantry, to aid Gen. Scott, at the siege of Vera Cruz. In preparation for the march to the city of Mexico, he was appointed quartermaster of his regiment. At the battle of Molino del Rey, he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and was brevetted captain at Chapultepec.

At the close of the Mexican War, Capt. Grant returned with his regiment to New York, and was again sent to one of the military posts on the frontier. The discovery of gold in California causing an immense tide of emigration to flow to the Pacific shores, Capt. Grant was sent with a battalion to Fort Dallas, in Oregon, for the protection of the interests of the immigrants. Life was wearisome in those wilds. Capt. Grant resigned his commission and returned to the States; and having married, entered upon the cultivation of a small farm near St. Louis, Mo. He had but little skill as a farmer. Finding his toil not remunerative, he turned to mercantile life, entering into the leather business, with a younger brother, at Galena, Ill. This was in the year 1860. As the tidings of the rebels firing on Fort Sumpter reached the ears of Capt. Grant in his counting-room, he said,—"Uncle Sam has educated me for the army; though I have served him through one war, I do not feel that I have yet repaid the debt. I am still ready to discharge my obligations. I shall therefore buckle on my sword and see Uncle Sam through this war too."

He went into the streets, raised a company of volunteers, and led them as their captain to Springfield, the capital of the State, where their services were offered to Gov. Yates. The Governor, impressed by the zeal and straightforward executive ability of Capt. Grant, gave him a desk in his office, to assist in the volunteer organization that was being formed in the State in behalf of the Government. On the 15th of

June, 1861, Capt. Grant received a commission as Colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. His merits as a West Point graduate, who had served for 15 years in the regular army, were such that he was soon promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and was placed in command at Cairo. The rebels raised their banner at Paducah, near the mouth of the Tennessee River. Scarcely had its folds appeared in the breeze ere Gen. Grant was there. The rebels fled. Their banner fell, and the star and stripes were unfurled in its stead.

He entered the service with great determination and immediately began active duty. This was the beginning, and until the surrender of Lee at Richmond he was ever pushing the enemy with great vigor and effectiveness. At Belmont, a few days later, he surprised and routed the rebels, then at Fort Henry won another victory. Then came the brilliant fight at Fort Donelson. The nation was electrified by the victory, and the brave leader of the boys in blue was immediately made a Major-General, and the military district of Tennessee was assigned to him.

Like all great captains, Gen. Grant knew well how to secure the results of victory. He immediately pushed on to the enemies' lines. Then came the terrible battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg, where Gen. Pemberton made an unconditional surrender of the city with over thirty thousand men and one-hundred and seventy-two cannon. The fall of Vicksburg was by far the most severe blow which the rebels had thus far encountered, and opened up the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf.

Gen. Grant was next ordered to co-operate with Gen. Banks in a movement upon Texas, and proceeded to New Orleans, where he was thrown from his horse, and received severe injuries, from which he was laid up for months. He then rushed to the aid of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas at Chattanooga, and by a wonderful series of strategic and technical measures put the Union Army in fighting condition. Then followed the bloody battles at Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in which the rebels were routed with great loss. This won for him unbounded praise in the North. On the 4th of February, 1864, Congress revived the grade of lieutenant-general, and the rank was conferred on Gen. Grant. He repaired to Washington to receive his credentials and enter upon the duties of his new office.

Gen. Grant decided as soon as he took charge of the army to concentrate the widely-dispersed National troops for an attack upon Richmond, the nominal capital of the Rebellion, and endeavor there to destroy the rebel armies which would be promptly assembled from all quarters for its defence. The whole continent seemed to tremble under the tramp of these majestic armies, rushing to the decisive battle field. Steamers were crowded with troops. Railway trains were burdened with closely packed thousands. His plans were comprehensive and involved a series of campaigns, which were executed with remarkable energy and ability, and were consummated at the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865.

The war was ended. The Union was saved. The almost unanimous voice of the Nation declared Gen. Grant to be the most prominent instrument in its salvation. The eminent services he had thus rendered the country brought him conspicuously forward as the Republican candidate for the Presidential chair.

At the Republican Convention held at Chicago, May 21, 1868, he was unanimously nominated for the Presidency, and at the autumn election received a majority of the popular vote, and 214 out of 294 electoral votes.

The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before bestowed upon any citizen of the United States.

He was the most prominent candidate before the Republican National Convention in 1880 for a renomination for President. He went to New York and embarked in the brokerage business under the firm name of Grant & Ward. The latter proved a villain, wrecked Grant's fortune, and for larceny was sent to the penitentiary. The General was attacked with cancer in the throat, but suffered in his stoic-like manner, never complaining. He was re-instated as General of the Army and retired by Congress. The cancer soon finished its deadly work, and July 23, 1885, the nation went in mourning over the death of the illustrious General.

Sincerely
R. B. Hayes

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was born. He was married, in September, 1813, to Sophia Birchard, of Wilmington, Vt., whose ancestors emigrated thither from Connecticut, they having been among the wealthiest and best families of Norwich. Her ancestry on the male side are traced back to 1635, to John Birchard, one of the principal founders of Norwich. Both of her grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

The father of President Hayes was an industrious, frugal and opened-hearted man. He was of a mechanical turn, and could mend a plow, knit a stocking, or do almost anything else that he choose to undertake. He was a member of the Church, active in all the benevolent enterprises of the town, and conducted his business on Christian principles. After the close of the war of 1812, for reasons inexplicable to his neighbors, he resolved to emigrate to Ohio.

The journey from Vermont to Ohio in that day, when there were no canals, steamers, nor railways, was a very serious affair. A tour of inspection was first made, occupying four months. Mr. Hayes determined to move to Delaware, where the family arrived in 1817. He died July 22, 1822, a victim of malarial fever, less than three months before the birth of the son, of whom we now write. Mrs. Hayes, in her sore bereavement, found the support she so much needed in her brother Sardis, who had been a member of the household from the day of its departure from Vermont, and in an orphan girl whom she had adopted some time before as an act of charity.

Mrs. Hayes at this period was very weak, and the

subject of this sketch was so feeble at birth that he was not expected to live beyond a month or two at most. As the months went by he grew weaker and weaker, so that the neighbors were in the habit of inquiring from time to time "if Mrs. Hayes' baby died last night." On one occasion a neighbor, who was on familiar terms with the family, after alluding to the boy's big head, and the mother's assiduous care of him, said in a bantering way, "That's right! Stick to him. You have got him along so far, and I shouldn't wonder if he would really come to something yet."

"You need not laugh," said Mrs. Hayes. "You wait and see. You can't tell but I shall make him President of the United States yet." The boy lived, in spite of the universal predictions of his speedy death; and when, in 1825, his older brother was drowned, he became, if possible, still dearer to his mother.

The boy was seven years old before he went to school. His education, however, was not neglected. He probably learned as much from his mother and sister as he would have done at school. His sports were almost wholly within doors, his playmates being his sister and her associates. These circumstances tended, no doubt, to foster that gentleness of disposition, and that delicate consideration for the feelings of others, which are marked traits of his character.

His uncle Sardis Birchard took the deepest interest in his education; and as the boy's health had improved, and he was making good progress in his studies, he proposed to send him to college. His preparation commenced with a tutor at home; but he was afterwards sent for one year to a professor in the Wesleyan University, in Middletown, Conn. He entered Kenyon College in 1838, at the age of sixteen, and was graduated at the head of his class in 1842.

Immediately after his graduation he began the study of law in the office of Thomas Sparrow, Esq., in Columbus. Finding his opportunities for study in Columbus somewhat limited, he determined to enter the Law School at Cambridge, Mass., where he remained two years.

In 1845, after graduating at the Law School, he was admitted to the bar at Marietta, Ohio, and shortly afterward went into practice as an attorney-at-law with Ralph P. Buckland, of Fremont. Here he remained three years, acquiring but a limited practice, and apparently unambitious of distinction in his profession.

In 1849 he moved to Cincinnati, where his ambition found a new stimulus. For several years, however, his progress was slow. Two events, occurring at this period, had a powerful influence upon his subsequent life. One of these was his marrage with Miss Lucy Ware Webb, daughter of Dr. James Webb, of Chilicothe; the other was his introduction to the Cincinnati Literary Club, a body embracing among its members such men as Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase, Gen. John Pope, Gov. Edward F. Noyes, and many others hardly less distinguished in after life. The marriage was a fortunate one in every respect, as everybody knows. Not one of all the wives of our Presidents was more universally admired, reverenced and beloved than was Mrs. Hayes, and no one did more than she to reflect honor upon American womanhood. The Literary Club brought Mr. Hayes into constant association with young men of high character and noble aims, and lured him to display the qualities so long hidden by his bashfulness and modesty.

In 1856 he was nominated to the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; but he declined to accept the nomination. Two years later, the office of city solicitor becoming vacant, the City Council elected him for the unexpired term.

In 1861, when the Rebellion broke out, he was at the zenith of his professional life. His rank at the bar was among the the first. But the news of the attack on Fort Sumpter found him eager to take up arms for the defense of his country.

His military record was bright and illustrious. In October, 1861, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel, and in August, 1862, promoted Colonel of the 79th Ohio regiment, but he refused to leave his old comrades and go among strangers. Subsequently, however, he was made Colonel of his old regiment. At the battle of South Mountain he received a wound, and while faint and bleeding displayed courage and fortitude that won admiration from all.

Col. Hayes was detached from his regiment, after his recovery, to act as Brigadier-General, and placed in command of the celebrated Kanawha division, and for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, he was promoted Brigadier-General. He was also brevetted Major-General, "for gallant and distinguished services during the campaigns of 1864, in West Virginia." In the course of his arduous services, four horses were shot from under him, and he was wounded four times.

In 1864, Gen. Hayes was elected to Congress, from the Second Ohio District, which had long been Democratic. He was not present during the campaign, and after his election was importuned to resign his commission in the army; but he finally declared, "I shall never come to Washington until I can come by the way of Richmond." He was re-elected in 1866.

In 1867, Gen Hayes was elected Governor of Ohio, over Hon. Allen G. Thurman, a popular Democrat. In 1869 was re-elected over George H. Pendleton. He was elected Governor for the third term in 1875.

In 1876 he was the standard bearer of the Republican Party in the Presidential contest, and after a hard long contest was chosen President, and was inaugurated Monday, March 5, 1875. He served his full term, not, however, with satisfaction to his party, but his administration was an average one.

J. A. Garfield

JAMES A. GARFIELD.

JAMES A. GARFIELD, twentieth President of the United States, was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the woods of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., O His parents were Abram and Eliza (Ballou) Garfield, both of New England ancestry and from families well known in the early history of that section of our country, but had moved to the Western Reserve, in Ohio, early in its settlement.

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

The early educational advantages young Garfield enjoyed were very limited, yet he made the most of them. He labored at farm work for others, did carpenter work, chopped wood, or did anything that would bring in a few dollars to aid his widowed mother in her struggles to keep the little family together. Nor was Gen. Garfield ever ashamed of his origin, and he never forgot the friends of his struggling childhood, youth and manhood, neither did they ever forget him. When in the highest seats of honor, the humblest friend of his boyhood was as kindly greeted as ever. The poorest laborer was sure of the sympathy of one who had known all the bitterness of want and the sweetness of bread earned by the sweat of the brow. He was ever the simple, plain, modest gentleman.

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. He remained at this work but a short time when he went home, and attended the seminary at Chester for about three years, when he entered Hiram and the Eclectic Institute, teaching a few terms of school in the meantime, and doing other work. This school was started by the Disciples of Christ in 1850, of which church he was then a member. He became janitor and bell-ringer in order to help pay his way. He then became both teacher and pupil. He soon "exhausted Hiram" and needed more; hence, in the fall of 1854, he entered Williams College, from which he graduated in 1856, taking one of the highest honors of his class. He afterwards returned to Hiram College as its President. As above stated, he early united with the Christian or Diciples Church at Hiram, and was ever after a devoted, zealous member, often preaching in its pulpit and places where he happened to be. Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, says of him in reference to his religion;

"President Garfield was more than a man of strong moral and religious convictions. His whole history, from boyhood to the last, shows that duty to man and to God, and devotion to Christ and life and faith and spiritual commission were controlling springs of his being, and to a more than usual degree. In my judgment there is no more interesting feature of his character than his loyal allegiance to the body of Christians in which he was trained, and the fervent sympathy which he ever showed in their Christian communion. Not many of the few 'wise and mighty and noble who are called' show a similar loyalty to the less stately and cultured Christian communions in which they have been reared. Too often it is true that as they step upward in social and political significance they step upward from one degree to another in some of the many types of fashionable Christianity. President Garfield adhered to the church of his mother, the church in which he was trained, and in which he served as a pillar and an evangelist, and yet with the largest and most unsectarian charity for all 'who love our Lord in sincerity.'"

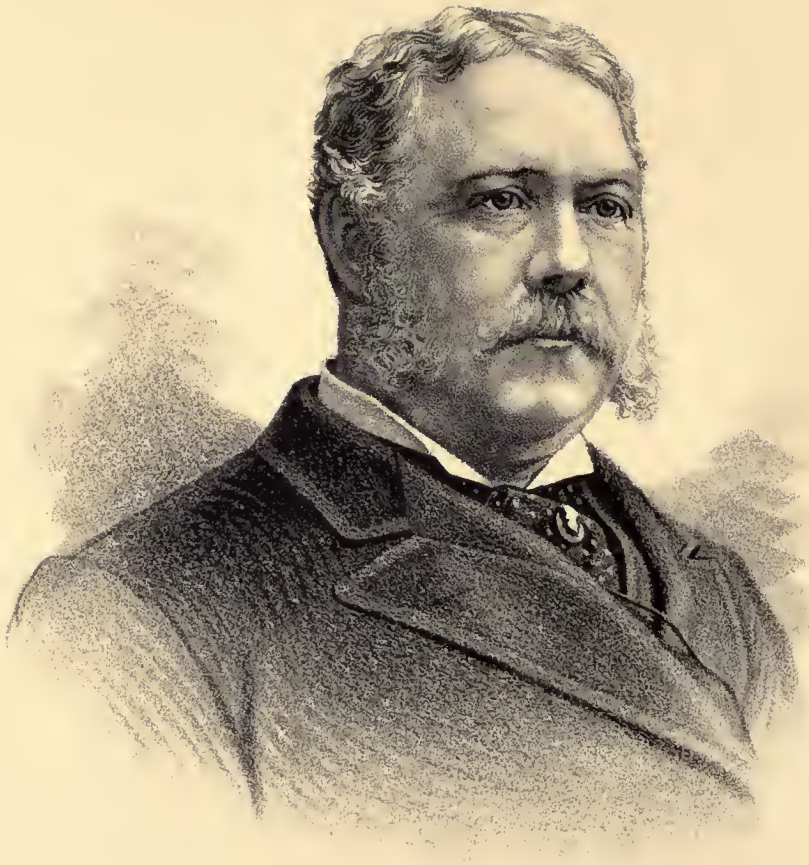
Mr. Garfield was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia Rudolph, Nov. 11, 1858, who proved herself worthy as the wife of one whom all the world loved and mourned. To them were born seven children, five of whom are still living, four boys and one girl.

Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland, and in 1861 was admitted to the bar. The great Rebellion broke out in the early part of this year, and Mr. Garfield at once resolved to fight as he had talked, and enlisted to defend the old flag. He received his commission as Lieut.-Colonel of the Forty-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 14, 1861. He was immediately put into active service, and before he had ever seen a gun fired in action, was placed in command of four regiments of infantry and eight companies of cavalry, charged with the work of driving out of his native State the officer (Humphrey Marshall) reputed to be the ablest of those, not educated to war whom Kentucky had given to the Rebellion. This work was bravely and speedily accomplished, although against great odds. President Lincoln, on his success commissioned him Brigadier-General, Jan. 10, 1862; and as "he had been the youngest man in the Ohio Senate two years before, so now he was the youngest General in the army." He was with Gen. Buell's army at Shiloh, in its operations around Corinth and its march through Alabama. He was then detailed as a member of the General Court-Martial for the trial of Gen. Fitz-John Porter. He was then ordered to report to Gen. Rosecrans, and was assigned to the "Chief of Staff."

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua R. Giddings. It was not without a struggle that he resigned his place in the army. At the time he entered Congress he was the youngest member in that body. There he remained by successive re-elections until he was elected President in 1880. Of his labors in Congress Senator Hoar says: "Since the year 1864 you cannot think of a question which has been debated in Congress, or discussed before a tribunel of the American people, in regard to which you will not find, if you wish instruction, the argument on one side stated, in almost every instance better than by anybody else, in some speech made in the House of Representatives or on the hustings by Mr. Garfield."

Upon Jan. 14, 1880, Gen. Garfield was elected to the U. S. Senate, and on the eighth of June, of the same year, was nominated as the candidate of his party for President at the great Chicago Convention. He was elected in the following November, and on March 4, 1881, was inaugurated. Probably no administration ever opened its existence under brighter auspices than that of President Garfield, and every day it grew in favor with the people, and by the first of July he had completed all the initiatory and preliminary work of his administration and was preparing to leave the city to meet his friends at Williams College. While on his way and at the depot, in company with Secretary Blaine, a man stepped behind him, drew a revolver, and fired directly at his back. The President tottered and fell, and as he did so the assassin fired a second shot, the bullet cutting the left coat sleeve of his victim, but inflicting no further injury. It has been very truthfully said that this was "the shot that was heard round the world" Never before in the history of the Nation had anything occurred which so nearly froze the blood of the people for the moment, as this awful deed. He was smitten on the brightest, gladdest day of all his life, and was at the summit of his power and hope. For eighty days, all during the hot months of July and August, he lingered and suffered. He, however, remained master of himself till the last, and by his magnificent bearing was teaching the country and the world the noblest of human lessons—how to live grandly in the very clutch of death. Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. He passed serenely away Sept. 19, 1883, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.



C. A. Arthur

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR, twenty-first President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Vermont, on the fifth of October, 1830, and is the oldest of a family of two sons and five daughters. His father was the Rev. Dr. William Arthur, a Baptist clergyman, who emigrated to this country from the county Antrim, Ireland, in his 18th year, and died in 1875, in Newtonville, near Albany, after a long and successful ministry.

Young Arthur was educated at Union College, Schenectady, where he excelled in all his studies. After his graduation he taught school in Vermont for two years, and at the expiration of that time came to New York, with $500 in his pocket, and entered the office of ex-Judge E. D. Culver as student. After being admitted to the bar he formed a partnership with his intimate friend and room-mate, Henry D. Gardiner, with the intention of practicing in the West, and for three months they roamed about in the Western States in search of an eligible site, but in the end returned to New York, where they hung out their shingle, and entered upon a successful career almost from the start. General Arthur soon afterward married the daughter of Lieutenant Herndon, of the United States Navy, who was lost at sea. Congress voted a gold medal to his widow in recognition of the bravery he displayed on that occasion. Mrs. Arthur died shortly before Mr. Arthur's nomination to the Vice Presidency, leaving two children.

Gen. Arthur obtained considerable legal celebrity in his first great case, the famous Lemmon suit, brought to recover possession of eight slaves who had been declared free by Judge Paine, of the Superior Court of New York City. It was in 1852 that Jonathan Lemmon, of Virginia, went to New York with his slaves, intending to ship them to Texas, when they were discovered and freed. The Judge decided that they could not be held by the owner under the Fugitive Slave Law. A howl of rage went up from the South, and the Virginia Legislature authorized the Attorney General of that State to assist in an appeal. Wm. M. Evarts and Chester A. Arthur were employed to represent the People, and they won their case, which then went to the Supreme Court of the United States. Charles O'Conor here espoused the cause of the slave-holders, but he too was beaten by Messrs Evarts and Arthur, and a long step was taken toward the emancipation of the black race.

Another great service was rendered by General Arthur in the same cause in 1856. Lizzie Jennings, a respectable colored woman, was put off a Fourth Avenue car with violence after she had paid her fare. General Arthur sued on her behalf, and secured a verdict of $500 damages. The next day the company issued an order to admit colored persons to ride on their cars, and the other car companies quickly

followed their example. Before that the Sixth Avenue Company ran a few special cars for colored persons and the other lines refused to let them ride at all.

General Arthur was a delegate to the Convention at Saratoga that founded the Republican party. Previous to the war he was Judge-Advocate of the Second Brigade of the State of New York, and Governor Morgan, of that State, appointed him Engineer-in-Chief of his staff. In 1861, he was made Inspector General, and soon afterward became Quartermaster-General. In each of these offices he rendered great service to the Government during the war. At the end of Governor Morgan's term he resumed the practice of the law, forming a partnership with Mr. Ransom, and then Mr. Phelps, the District Attorney of New York, was added to the firm. The legal practice of this well-known firm was very large and lucrative, each of the gentlemen composing it were able lawyers, and possessed a splendid local reputation, if not indeed one of national extent.

He always took a leading part in State and city politics. He was appointed Collector of the Port of New York by President Grant, Nov. 21 1872, to succeed Thomas Murphy, and held the office until July, 20, 1878, when he was succeeded by Collector Merritt.

Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican party, all able men, and each stood firm and fought vigorously and with signal tenacity for their respective candidates that were before the convention for the nomination. Finally Gen. Garfield received the nomination for President and Gen. Arthur for Vice-President. The campaign which followed was one of the most animated known in the history of our country. Gen. Hancock, the standard-bearer of the Democratic party, was a popular man, and his party made a valiant fight for his election.

Finally the election came and the country's choice was Garfield and Arthur. They were inaugurated March 4, 1881, as President and Vice-President. A few months only had passed ere the newly chosen President was the victim of the assassin's bullet. Then came terrible weeks of suffering,—those moments of anxious suspense, when the hearts of all civilized nations were throbbing in unison, longing for the recovery of the noble, the good President. The remarkable patience that he manifested during those hours and weeks, and even months, of the most terrible suffering man has often been called upon to endure, was seemingly more than human. It was certainly God-like. During all this period of deepest anxiety Mr. Arthur's every move was watched, and be it said to his credit that his every action displayed only an earnest desire that the suffering Garfield might recover, to serve the remainder of the term he had so auspiciously begun. Not a selfish feeling was manifested in deed or look of this man, even though the most honored position in the world was at any moment likely to fall to him.

At last God in his mercy relieved President Garfield from further suffering, and the world, as never before in its history over the death of any other man, wept at his bier. Then it became the duty of the Vice President to assume the responsibilities of the high office, and he took the oath in New York, Sept. 20, 1881. The position was an embarrassing one to him, made doubly so from the facts that all eyes were on him, anxious to know what he would do, what policy he would pursue, and who he would select as advisers. The duties of the office had been greatly neglected during the President's long illness, and many important measures were to be immediately decided by him; and still farther to embarrass him he did not fail to realize under what circumstances he became President, and knew the feelings of many on this point. Under these trying circumstances President Arthur took the reins of the Government in his own hands; and, as embarrassing as were the condition of affairs, he happily surprised the nation, acting so wisely that but few criticised his administration. He served the nation well and faithfully, until the close of his administration, March 4, 1885, and was a popular candidate before his party for a second term. His name was ably presented before the convention at Chicago, and was received with great favor, and doubtless but for the personal popularity of one of the opposing candidates, he would have been selected as the standard-bearer of his party for another campaign. He retired to private life carrying with him the best wishes of the American people, whom he had served in a manner satisfactory to them and with credit to himself.

Grover Cleveland

S. Grover Cleveland.

STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian minister, with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

At the last mentioned place young Grover commenced going to school in the "good, old-fashioned way," and presumably distinguished himself after the manner of all village boys, in doing the things he ought not to do. Such is the distinguishing trait of all geniuses and independent thinkers. When he arrived at the age of 14 years, he had outgrown the capacity of the village school and expressed a most emphatic desire to be sent to an academy. To this his father decidedly objected. Academies in those days cost money; besides, his father wanted him to become self-supporting by the quickest possible means, and this at that time in Fayetteville seemed to be a position in a country store, where his father and the large family on his hands had considerable influence. Grover was to be paid $50 for his services the first year, and if he proved trustworthy he was to receive $100 the second year. Here the lad commenced his career as salesman, and in two years he had earned so good a reputation for trustworthiness that his employers desired to retain him for an indefinite length of time. Otherwise he did not exhibit as yet any particular "flashes of genius" or eccentricities of talent. He was simply a good boy.

But instead of remaining with this firm in Fayetteville, he went with the family in their removal to Clinton, where he had an opportunity of attending a high school. Here he industriously pursued his studies until the family removed with him to a point on Black River known as the "Holland Patent," a village of 500 or 600 people, 15 miles north of Utica, N. Y. At this place his father died, after preaching but three Sundays. This event broke up the family, and Grover set out for New York City to accept, at a small salary, the position of "under-teacher" in an asylum for the blind. He taught faithfully for two years, and although he obtained a good reputation in this capacity, he concluded that teaching was not his

calling for life, and, reversing the traditional order, he left the city to seek his fortune, instead of going to a city. He first thought of Cleveland, Ohio, as there was some charm in that name for him; but before proceeding to that place he went to Buffalo to ask the advice of his uncle, Lewis F. Allan, a noted stock-breeder of that place. The latter did not speak enthusiastically. "What is it you want to do, my boy?" he asked. "Well, sir, I want to study law," was the reply. "Good gracious!" remarked the old gentleman; "do you, indeed? What ever put that into your head? How much money have you got?" "Well, sir, to tell the truth, I haven't got any."

After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at $50 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already engaged in the office, but Grover's persistency won, and he was finally permitted to come as an office boy and have the use of the law library, for the nominal sum of $3 or $4 a week. Out of this he had to pay for his board and washing. The walk to and from his uncle's was a long and rugged one; and, although the first winter was a memorably severe one, his shoes were out of repair and his overcoat—he had none—yet he was nevertheless prompt and regular. On the first day of his service here, his senior employer threw down a copy of Blackstone before him with a bang that made the dust fly, saying "That's where they all begin." A titter ran around the little circle of clerks and students, as they thought that was enough to scare young Grover out of his plans; but in due time he mastered that cumbersome volume. Then, as ever afterward, however, Mr. Cleveland exhibited a talent for executiveness rather than for chasing principles through all their metaphysical possibilities. "Let us quit talking and go and do it," was practically his motto.

The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1881 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with especial reference to the bringing about certain reforms in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The New York *Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-tried Republican statesman, James G. Blaine. President Cleveland resigned his office as Governor of New York in January, 1885, in order to prepare for his duties as the Chief Executive of the United States, in which capacity his term commenced at noon on the 4th of March, 1885. For his Cabinet officers he selected the following gentlemen: For Secretary of State, Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; Secretary of the Treasury, Daniel Manning, of New York; Secretary of War, William C. Endicott, of Massachusetts; Secretary of the Navy, William C. Whitney, of New York; Secretary of the Interior, L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi; Postmaster-General, William F. Vilas, of Wisconsin; Attorney-General, A. H. Garland, of Arkansas.

The silver question precipitated a controversy between those who were in favor of the continuance of silver coinage and those who were opposed, Mr. Cleveland answering for the latter, even before his inauguration.

Benj. Harrison

Benjamin Harrison.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, the twenty-third President, is the deseendant of one of the historieal families of this country. The head of the family was a Major General Harrison, one of Oliver Cromwell's trusted followers and fighters. In the zenith of Cromwell's power it became the duty of this Harrison to partieipate in the trial of Charles I, and afterward to sign the death warrant of the king. He subsequently paid for this with his life, being hung Oet. 13, 1660. His descendants eame to America, and the next of the family that appears in history is Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and after whom he was named. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the Continental Congress during the years 1774–5–6, and was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was three times elected Governor of Virginia.

Gen William Henry Harrison, the son of the distinguished patriot of the Revolution, after a successful eareer as a soldier during the War of 1812, and with a clean reeord as Governor of the Northwestern Territory, was eleeted President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1833. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a eountry lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good edueation, and nothing more. He beeame engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Seott, Prineipal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison reeeived the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at $800. He regarded this legaey as a fortune, and deeided to get married at onee, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the praetice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a plaee in the world. He

decided to go to Indianapolis, which was even at that time a town of promise. He met with slight encouragement at first, making scarcely anything the first year. He worked diligently, applying himself closely to his calling, built up an extensive practice and took a leading rank in the legal profession. He is the father of two children.

In 1860 Mr. Harrison was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Reporter, and then began his experience as a stump speaker. He canvassed the State thoroughly, and was elected by a handsome majority. In 1862 he raised the 17th Indiana Infantry, and was chosen its Colonel. His regiment was composed of the rawest of material, but Col. Harrison employed all his time at first mastering military tactics and drilling his men, when he therefore came to move toward the East with Sherman his regiment was one of the best drilled and organized in the army. At Resaca he especially distinguished himself, and for his bravery at Peachtree Creek he was made a Brigadier General, Gen. Hooker speaking of him in the most complimentary terms.

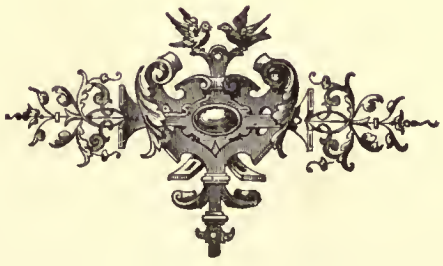
During the absence of Gen. Harrison in the field the Supreme Court declared the office of the Supreme Court Reporter vacant, and another person was elected to the position. From the time of leaving Indiana with his regiment until the fall of 1864 he had taken no leave of absence, but having been nominated that year for the same office, he got a thirty-day leave of absence, and during that time made a brilliant canvass of the State, and was elected for another term. He then started to rejoin Sherman, but on the way was stricken down with scarlet fever, and after a most trying siege made his way to the front in time to participate in the closing incidents of the war.

In 1868 Gen. Harrison declined a re-election as reporter, and resumed the practice of law. In 1876 he was a candidate for Governor. Although defeated, the brilliant campaign he made won for him a National reputation, and he was much sought, especially in the East, to make speeches. In 1880, as usual, he took an active part in the campaign, and was elected to the United States Senate. Here he served six years, and was known as one of the ablest men, best lawyers and strongest debaters in that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon the vital questions of the day, chief among which was the tariff, awoke a deep interest in the campaign throughout the Nation. Shortly after the nomination delegations began to visit Mr. Harrison at Indianapolis, his home. This movement became popular, and from all sections of the country societies, clubs and delegations journeyed thither to pay their respects to the distinguished statesman. The popularity of these was greatly increased on account of the remarkable speeches made by Mr. Harrison. He spoke daily all through the summer and autumn to these visiting delegations, and so varied, masterly and eloquent were his speeches that they at once placed him in the foremost rank of American orators and statesmen.

On account of his eloquence as a speaker and his power as a debater, he was called upon at an uncommonly early age to take part in the discussion of the great questions that then began to agitate the country. He was an uncompromising anti slavery man, and was matched against some of the most eminent Democratic speakers of his State. No man who felt the touch of his blade desired to be pitted with him again. With all his eloquence as an orator he never spoke for oratorical effect, but his words always went like bullets to the mark He is purely American in his ideas and is a splendid type of the American statesman. Gifted with quick perception, a logical mind and a ready tongue, he is one of the most distinguished impromptu speakers in the Nation. Many of these speeches sparkled with the rarest of eloquence and contained arguments of greatest weight. Many of his terse statements have already become aphorisms. Original in thought, precise in logic, terse in statement, yet withal faultless in eloquence, he is recognized as the sound statesman and brilliant orator of the day

GOVERNORS.



Shadrach Bond

SHADRACH BOND.

SHADRACH BOND, the first Governor of Illinois after its organization as a State, serving from 1818 to 1822, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, in the year 1773, and was raised a farmer on his father's plantation, receiving only a plain English education. He emigrated to this State in 1794, when it was a part of the "Northwest Territory," continuing in the vocation in which he had been brought up in his native State, in the "New Design," near Eagle Creek, in what is now Monroe County. He served several terms as a member of the General Assembly of Indiana Territory, after it was organized as such, and in 1812–14 he was a Delegate to the Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses, taking his seat Dec. 3, 1812, and serving until Oct. 3, 1814. These were the times, the reader will recollect, when this Government had its last struggle with Great Britain. The year 1812 is also noted in the history of this State as that in which the first Territorial Legislature was held. It convened at Kaskaskia, Nov. 25, and adjourned Dec. 26, following.

While serving as Delegate to Congress, Mr. Bond was instrumental in procuring the right of pre-emption on the public domain. On the expiration of his term at Washington he was appointed Receiver of Public Moneys at Kaskaskia, then the capital of the Territory. In company with John G. Comyges, Thomas H. Harris, Charles Slade, Michael Jones, Warren Brown, Edward Humphries and Charles W Hunter, he became a proprietor of the site of the initial city of Cairo, which they hoped, from its favorable location at the junction of the two great rivers near the center of the Great West, would rapidly develop into a metropolis. To aid the enterprise, they obtained a special charter from the Legislature, incorporating both the City and the Bank of Cairo.

In 1818 Mr. Bond was elected the first Governor of the State of Illinois, being inaugurated Oct. 6 that year, which was several weeks before Illinois was actually admitted. The facts are these: In January, 1818, the Territorial Legislature sent a petition to Congress for the admission of Illinois as a State, Nathaniel Pope being then Delegate. The petition was granted, fixing the northern line of the State on the latitude of the southern extremity of Lake Michigan; but the bill was afterward so amended as to extend this line to its present latitude. In July a convention was called at Kaskaskia to draft a constitution, which, however, was not submitted to the people. By its provisions, supreme judges, prosecuting attorneys, county and circuit judges, recorders and justices of the peace were all to be appointed by the Governor or elected by the Legislature. This constitution was accepted by Congress Dec. 30. At that time Illinois comprised but eleven counties, namely, Randolph, Madison, Gallatin, Johnson, Pope, Jackson, Crawford, Bond, Union, Washington and Franklin, the northern portion of the State being mainly in Madison County. Thus it appears that Mr. Bond was honored by the naming of a

county before he was elected Governor. The present county of Bond is of small limitations, about 60 to 80 miles south of Springfield. For Lieutenant Governor the people chose Pierre Menard, a prominent and worthy Frenchman, after whom a county in this State is named. In this election there were no opposition candidates, as the popularity of these men had made their promotion to the chief offices of the State, even before the constitution was drafted, a foregone conclusion.

The principal points that excited the people in reference to political issues at this period were local or "internal improvements," as they were called, State banks, location of the capital, slavery and the personal characteristics of the proposed candidates. Mr. Bond represented the "Convention party," for introducing slavery into the State, supported by Elias Kent Kane, his Secretary of State, and John McLean, while Nathaniel Pope and John P. Cook led the anti-slavery element. The people, however, did not become very much excited over this issue until 1820, when the famous Missouri Compromise was adopted by Congress, limiting slavery to the south of the parallel of 36° 30′ except in Missouri. While this measure settled the great slavery controversy, so far as the average public sentiment was temporarily concerned, until 1854, when it was repealed under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas, the issue as considered locally in this State was not decided until 1824, after a most furious campaign. (See sketch of Gov. Coles.) The ticket of 1818 was a compromise one, Bond representing (moderately) the pro-slavery sentiment and Menard the anti-slavery.

An awkward element in the State government under Gov. Bond's administration, was the imperfection of the State constitution. The Convention wished to have Elijah C. Berry for the first Auditor of Public Accounts, but, as it was believed that the new Governor would not appoint him to the office, the Convention declared in a schedule that "an auditor of public accounts, an attorney general and such other officers of the State as may be necessary, may be appointed by the General Assembly." The Constitution, as it stood, vested a very large appointing power in the Governor; but for the purpose of getting one man into office, a total change was made, and the power vested in the Legislature. Of this provision the Legislature took advantage, and declared that State's attorneys, canal commissioners, bank directors, etc., were all "officers of the State" and must therefore be appointed by itself independently of the Governor.

During Gov. Bond's administration a general law was passed for the incorporation of academies and towns, and one authorizing lotteries. The session of 1822 authorized the Governor to appoint commissioners, to act in conjunction with like commissioners appointed by the State of Indiana, to report on the practicability and expediency of improving the navigation of the Wabash River; also inland navigation generally. Many improvements were recommended, some of which have been feebly worked at even till the present day, those along the Wabash being of no value. Also, during Gov. Bond's term of office, the capital of the State was removed from Kaskaskia to Vandalia. In 1820 a law was passed by Congress authorizing this State to open a canal through the public lands. The State appointed commissioners to explore the route and prepare the necessary surveys and estimates, preparatory to its execution; but, being unable out of its own resources to defray the expenses of the undertaking, it was abandoned until some time after Congress made the grant of land for the purpose of its construction.

On the whole, Gov. Bond's administration was fairly good, not being open to severe criticism from any party. In 1824, two years after the expiration of his term of office, he was brought out as a candidate for Congress against the formidable John P. Cook, but received only 4,374 votes to 7,460 for the latter. Gov. Bond was no orator, but had made many fast friends by a judicious bestowment of his gubernatorial patronage, and these worked zealously for him in the campaign.

In 1827 ex-Gov. Bond was appointed by the Legislature, with Wm. P. McKee and Dr. Gershom Jayne, as Commissioners to locate a site for a penitentiary on the Mississippi at or near Alton.

Mr. Bond was of a benevolent and convivial disposition, a man of shrewd observation and clear appreciation of events. His person was erect, standing six feet in height, and after middle life became portly, weighing 200 pounds. His features were strongly masculine, complexion dark, hair jet and eyes hazel; was a favorite with the ladies. He died April 11, 1830, in peace and contentment.

Edward Coles

LIBRARY ILLINOIS.

Edward Coles.

EDWARD COLES, second Governor of Illinois, 1823–6, was born Dec. 15, 1786, in Albemarle Co., Va., on the old family estate called "Enniscorthy," on the Green Mountain. His father, John Coles, was a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. Having been fitted for college by private tutors, he was sent to Hampden Sidney, where he remained until the autumn of 1805, when he was removed to William and Mary College, at Williamsburg, Va. This college he left in the summer of 1807, a short time before the final and graduating examination. Among his classmates were Lieut. Gen. Scott, President John Tyler, Wm. S. Archer, United States Senator from Virginia, and Justice Baldwin, of the United States Supreme Court. The President of the latter college, Bishop Madison, was a cousin of President James Madison, and that circumstance was the occasion of Mr. Coles becoming personally acquainted with the President and receiving a position as his private secretary, 1809–15.

The family of Coles was a prominent one in Virginia, and their mansion was the seat of the old-fashioned Virginian hospitality. It was visited by such notables as Patrick Henry, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, the Randolphs, Tazewell, Wirt, etc. At the age of 23, young Coles found himself heir to a plantation and a considerable number of slaves. Ever since his earlier college days his attention had been drawn to the question of slavery. He read everything on the subject that came in his way, and listened to lectures on the rights of man. The more he reflected upon the subject, the more impossible was it for him to reconcile the immortal declaration "that all men are born free and equal" with the practice of slave-holding. He resolved, therefore, to free his slaves the first opportunity, and even remove his residence to a free State. One reason which determined him to accept the appointment as private secretary to Mr. Madison was because he believed that through the acquaintances he could make at Washington he could better determine in what part of the non-slaveholding portion of the Union he would prefer to settle.

The relations between Mr. Coles and President Madison, as well as Jefferson and other distinguished men, were of a very friendly character, arising from the similarity of their views on the question of slavery and their sympathy for each other in holding doctrines so much at variance with the prevailing sentiment in their own State.

In 1857, he resigned his secretaryship and spent a portion of the following autumn in exploring the Northwest Territory, for the purpose of finding a location and purchasing lands on which to settle his negroes. He traveled with a horse and buggy, with an extra man and horse for emergencies, through many parts of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, determining finally to settle in Illinois. At this time, however, a misunderstanding arose between our Government and Russia, and Mr. Coles was selected to repair to St. Petersburg on a special mission, bearing important papers concerning the matter at issue. The result was a conviction of the Emperor (Alex-

ander) of the error committed by his minister at Washington, and the consequent withdrawal of the the latter from the post. On his return, Mr. Coles visited other parts of Europe, especially Paris, where he was introduced to Gen. Lafayette.

In the spring of 1819, he removed with all his negroes from Virginia to Edwardsville, Ill., with the intention of giving them their liberty. He did not make known to them his intention until one beautiful morning in April, as they were descending the Ohio River. He lashed all the boats together and called all the negroes on deck and made them a short address, concluding his remarks by so expressing himself that by a turn of a sentence he proclaimed in the shortest and fullest manner that they were no longer slaves, but free as he was and were at liberty to proceed with him or go ashore at their pleasure. A description of the effect upon the negroes is best described in his own language:

"The effect upon them was electrical. They stared at me and then at each other, as if doubting the accuracy or reality of what they heard. In breathless silence they stood before me, unable to utter a word, but with countenances beaming with expression which no words could convey, and which no language can describe. As they began to see the truth of what they had heard, and realize their situation, there came on a kind of hysterical, giggling laugh. After a pause of intense and unutterable emotion, bathed in tears, and with tremulous voices, they gave vent to their gratitude and implored the blessing of God on me."

Before landing he gave them a general certificate of freedom, and afterward conformed more particularly with the law of this State requiring that each individual should have a certificate. This act of Mr. Coles, all the more noble and heroic considering the overwhelming pro-slavery influences surrounding him, has challenged the admiration of every philanthropist of modern times.

March 5, 1819, President Monroe appointed Mr. Coles Registrar of the Land Office at Edwardsville, at that time one of the principal land offices in the State. While acting in this capacity and gaining many friends by his politeness and general intelligence, the greatest struggle that ever occurred in Illinois on the slavery question culminated in the furious contest characterizing the campaigns and elections of 1822–4. In the summer of 1823, when a new Governor was to be elected to succeed Mr. Bond, the pro-slavery element divided into factions, putting forward for the executive office Joseph Phillips, Chief Justice of the State, Thomas C. Browne and Gen. James B. Moore, of the State Militia. The anti-slavery element united upon Mr. Coles, and, after one of the most bitter campaigns, succeeded in electing him as Governor. His plurality over Judge Phillips was only 59 in a total vote of over 8,000. The Lieutenant Governor was elected by the slavery men. Mr. Coles' inauguration speech was marked by calmness, deliberation and such a wise expression of appropriate suggestions as to elicit the sanction of all judicious politicians. But he compromised not with evil. In his message to the Legislature, the seat of Government being then at Vandalia, he strongly urged the abrogation of the modified form of slavery which then existed in this State, contrary to the Ordinance of 1787. His position on this subject seems the more remarkable, when it is considered that he was a minority Governor, the population of Illinois being at that time almost exclusively from slave-holding States and by a large majority in favor of the perpetuation of that old relic of barbarism. The Legislature itself was, of course, a reflex of the popular sentiment, and a majority of them were led on by fiery men in denunciations of the conscientious Governor, and in curses loud and deep upon him and all his friends. Some of the public men, indeed, went so far as to head a sort of mob, or "shiveree" party, who visited the residence of the Governor and others at Vandalia and yelled and groaned and spat fire.

The Constitution, not establishing or permitting slavery in this State, was thought therefore to be defective by the slavery politicians, and they desired a State Convention to be elected, to devise and submit a new Constitution; and the dominant politics of the day was "Convention" and "anti-Convention." Both parties issued addresses to the people, Gov. Coles himself being the author of the address published by the latter party. This address revealed the schemes of the conspirators in a masterly manner. It is difficult for us at this distant day to estimate the critical and extremely delicate situation in which the Governor was placed at that time.

Our hero maintained himself honorably and with supreme dignity throughout his administration, and in his honor a county in this State is named. He was truly a great man, and those who lived in this State during his sojourn here, like those who live at the base of the mountain, were too near to see and recognize the greatness that overshadowed them.

Mr. Coles was married Nov. 28, 1833, by Bishop De Lancey, to Miss Sally Logan Roberts, a daughter of Hugh Roberts, a descendant of Welsh ancestry, who came to this country with Wm. Penn in 1682.

After the expiration of his term of service, Gov. Coles continued his residence in Edwardsville, superintending his farm in the vicinity. He was fond of agriculture, and was the founder of the first agricultural society in the State. On account of ill health, however, and having no family to tie him down, he spent much of his time in Eastern cities. About 1832 he changed his residence to Philadelphia, where he died July 7, 1868, and is buried at Woodland, near that city.

Norman Edwards

Ninian Edwards.

RINIAN EDWARDS, Governor from 1827 to 1830, was a son of Benjamin Edwards, and was born in Montgomery County, Maryland, in March, 1775. His domestic training was well fitted to give his mind strength, firmness and honorable principles, and a good foundation was laid for the elevated character to which he afterwards attained. His parents were Baptists, and very strict in their moral principles. His education in early youth was in company with and partly under the tuition of Hon. Wm. Wirt, whom his father patronized, and who was more than two years older. An intimacy was thus formed between them which was lasting for life. He was further educated at Dickinson College, at Carlisle, Pa. He next commenced the study of law, but before completing his course he moved to Nelson County, Ky., to open a farm for his father and to purchase homes and locate lands for his brothers and sisters. Here he fell in the company of dissolute companions, and for several years led the life of a spendthrift. He was, however, elected to the Legislature of Kentucky as the Representative of Nelson County before he was 21 years of age, and was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote.

In 1798 he was licensed to practice law, and the following year was admitted to the Courts of Tennessee. About this time he left Nelson County for Russellville, in Logan County, broke away from his dissolute companions, commenced a reformation and devoted himself to severe and laborious study. He then began to rise rapidly in his profession, and soon became an eminent lawyer, and inside of four years he filled in succession the offices of Presiding Judge of the General Court, Circuit Judge, fourth Judge of the Court of Appeals and Chief Justice of the State, —all before he was 32 years of age! In addition, in 1802, he received a commission as Major of a battalion of Kentucky militia, and in 1804 was chosen a Presidential Elector, on the Jefferson and Clinton ticket. In 1806 he was a candidate for Congress, but withdrew on being promoted to the Court of Appeals.

Illinois was organized as a separate Territory in the spring of 1809, when Mr. Edwards, then Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals in Kentucky, received from President Madison the appointment as Governor of the new Territory, his commission bearing date April 24, 1809. Edwards arrived at Kaskaskia in June, and on the 11th of that month took the oath of office. At the same time he was appointed Superintendent of the United States Saline, this Government interest then developing into considerable proportions in Southern Illinois. Although during the first three years of his administration he had the power to make new counties and appoint all the officers, yet he always allowed the people of each county, by an informal

vote, to select their own officers, both civil and military. The noted John J. Crittenden, afterward United States Senator from Kentucky, was appointed by Gev. Edwards to the office of Attorney General of the Territory, which office was accepted for a short time only.

The Indians in 1810 committing sundry depredations in the Territory, crossing the Mississippi from the Territory of Louisiana, a long correspondence followed between the respective Governors concerning the remedies, which ended in a council with the savages at Peoria in 1812, and a fresh interpretation of the treaties. Peoria was depopulated by these depredations, and was not re-settled for many years afterward.

As Gov. Edwards' term of office expired by law in 1812, he was re-appointed for another term of three years, and again in 1815 for a third term, serving until the organization of the State in the fall of 1818 and the inauguration of Gov. Bond. At this time ex-Gov. Edwards was sent to the United States Senate, his colleague being Jesse B. Thomas. As Senator, Mr. Edwards took a conspicuous part, and acquitted himself honorably in all the measures that came up in that body, being well posted, an able debater and a conscientious statesman. He thought seriously of resigning this situation in 1821, but was persuaded by his old friend, Wm. Wirt, and others to continue in office, which he did to the end of the term.

He was then appointed Minister to Mexico by President Monroe. About this time, it appears that Mr. Edwards saw suspicious signs in the conduct of Wm. H. Crawford, Secretary of the United States Treasury, and an ambitious candidate for the Presidency, and being implicated by the latter in some of his statements, he resigned his Mexican mission in order fully to investigate the charges. The result was the exculpation of Mr. Edwards.

Pro-slavery regulations, often termed "Black Laws," disgraced the statute books of both the Territory and the State of Illinois during the whole of his career in this commonwealth, and Mr. Edwards always maintained the doctrines of freedom, and was an important actor in the great struggle which ended in a victory for his party in 1824.

In 1826-7 the Winnebago and other Indians committed some depredations in the northern part of the State, and the white settlers, who desired the lands and wished to exasperate the savages into an evacuation of the country, magnified the misdemeanors of the aborigines and thereby produced a hostility between the races so great as to precipitate a little war, known in history as the "Winnebago War." A few chases and skirmishes were had, when Gen. Atkinson succeeded in capturing Red Bird, the Indian chief, and putting him to death, thus ending the contest, at least until the troubles commenced which ended in the "Black Hawk War" of 1832. In the interpretation of treaties and execution of their provisions Gov. Edwards had much vexatious work to do. The Indians kept themselves generally within the jurisdiction of Michigan Territory, and its Governor, Lewis Cass, was at a point so remote that ready correspondence with him was difficult or impossible. Gov. Edwards' administration, however, in regard to the protection of the Illinois frontier, seems to have been very efficient and satisfactory.

For a considerable portion of his time after his removal to Illinois, Gov. Edwards resided upon his farm near Kaskaskia, which he had well stocked with horses, cattle and sheep from Kentucky, also with fruit-trees, grape-vines and shrubbery. He established saw and grist-mills, and engaged extensively in mercantile business, having no less than eight or ten stores in this State and Missouri. Notwithstanding the arduous duties of his office, he nearly always purchased the goods himself with which to supply the stores. Although not a regular practitioner of medicine, he studied the healing art to a considerable extent, and took great pleasure in prescribing for, and taking care of, the sick, generally without charge. He was also liberal to the poor, several widows and ministers of the gospel becoming indebted to him even for their homes.

He married Miss Elvira Lane, of Maryland, in 1803, and they became the affectionate parents of several children, one of whom, especially, is well known to the people of the "Prairie State," namely, Ninian Wirt Edwards, once the Superintendent of Public Instruction and still a resident of Springfield. Gov. Edwards resided at and in the vicinity of Kaskaskia from 1809 to 1818; in Edwardsville (named after him) from that time to 1824; and from the latter date at Belleville, St. Clair County, until his death, July 20, 1833, of Asiatic cholera. Edwards County is also named in his honor.

John Reynolds

John Reynolds.

JOHN REYNOLDS, Governor 1831–4, was born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, Feb. 26, 1788. His father, Robert Reynolds and his mother, *nee* Margaret Moore, were both natives of Ireland, from which country they emigrated to the United States in 1785, landing at Philadelphia. The senior Reynolds entertained an undying hostility to the British Government. When the subject of this sketch was about six months old, his parents emigrated with him to Tennessee, where many of their relatives had already located, at the base of the Copper Ridge Mountain, about 14 miles northeast of the present city of Knoxville. There they were exposed to Indian depredations, and were much molested by them. In 1794 they moved into the interior of the State. They were poor, and brought up their children to habits of manual industry.

In 1800 the family removed to Kaskaskia, Ill., with eight horses and two wagons, encountering many hardships on the way. Here young Reynolds passed the most of his childhood, while his character began to develop, the most prominent traits of which were ambition and energy. He also adopted the principle and practice of total abstinence from intoxicating liquors. In 1807 the family made another removal, this time to the "Goshen Settlement," at the foot of the Mississippi bluffs three or four miles southwest of Edwardsville.

On arriving at his 20th year, Mr. Reynolds, seeing that he must look about for his own livelihood and not yet having determined what calling to pursue, concluded first to attend college, and he accordingly went to such an institution of learning, near Knoxville, Tenn., where he had relatives. Imagine his diffidence, when, after passing the first 20 years of his life without ever having seen a carpet, a papered wall or a Windsor chair, and never having lived in a shingle-roofed house, he suddenly ushered himself into the society of the wealthy in the vicinity of Knoxville! He attended college nearly two years, going through the principal Latin authors; but it seems that he, like the rest of the world in modern times, had but very little use for his Latin in after life. He always failed, indeed, to exhibit any good degree of literary discipline. He commenced the study of law in Knoxville, but a pulmonary trouble came on and compelled him to change his mode of life. Accordingly he returned home and recuperated, and in 1812 resumed his college and law studies at Knoxville. In the fall of 1812 he was admitted to the Bar at Kaskaskia. About this time he also learned the French language, which he practiced with pleasure in conversation with his family for many years. He regarded this language as being superior to all others for social intercourse.

From his services in the West, in the war of 1812, he obtained the sobriquet of the "Old Ranger." He was Orderly Sergeant, then Judge Advocate.

Mr. Reynolds opened his first law office in the winter and spring of 1814, in the French village of Cahokia, then the capital of St. Clair County.

In the fall of 1818 he was elected an Associate Justice upon the Supreme Bench by the General Assembly. In 1825 he entered more earnestly than ever into the practice of law, and the very next year was elected a member of the Legislature, where he acted independently of all cliques and private interests. In 1828 the Whigs and Democrats were for the first time distinctively organized as such in Illinois, and the usual party bitterness grew up and raged on all sides, while Mr. Reynolds preserved a judicial calmness and moderation. The real animus of the campaign was "Jackson" and "anti-Jackson," the former party carrying the State.

In August, 1830, Mr. Reynolds was elected Governor, amid great excitement. Installed in office, he did all within his power to advance the cause of education, internal improvements, the Illinois & Michigan Canal, the harbor at Chicago, settling the country, etc.; also recommended the winding up of the State Bank, as its affairs had become dangerously complicated. In his national politics, he was a moderate supporter of General Jackson. But the most celebrated event of his gubernatorial administration was the Black Hawk War, which occurred in 1832. He called out the militia and prosecuted the contest with commendable diligence, appearing in person on the battle-grounds during the most critical periods. He was recognized by the President as Major-General, and authorized by him to make treaties with the Indians. By the assistance of the general Government the war was terminated without much bloodshed, but after many serious fights. This war, as well as everything else, was materially retarded by the occurrence of Asiatic cholera in the West. This was its first appearance here, and was the next event in prominence during Gov. Reynolds' term.

South Carolina nullification coming up at this time, it was heartily condemned by both President Jackson and Gov. Reynolds, who took precisely the same grounds as the Unionists in the last war.

On the termination of his gubernatorial term in 1834, Gov. Reynolds was elected a Member of Congress, still considering himself a backwoodsman, as he had scarcely been outside of the State since he became of age, and had spent nearly all his youthful days in the wildest region of the frontier. His first move in Congress was to adopt a resolution that in all elections made by the House for officers the votes should be given *viva voce*, each member in his place naming aloud the person for whom he votes. This created considerable heated discussion, but was essentially adopted, and remained the controlling principle for many years. The ex-Governor was scarcely absent from his seat a single day, during eight sessions of Congress, covering a period of seven years, and he never vacillated in a party vote; but he failed to get the Democratic party to foster his "National Road" scheme. He says, in "My Own Times" (a large autobiography he published), that it was only by rigid economy that he avoided insolvency while in Washington. During his sojourn in that city he was married, to a lady of the place..

In 1837, while out of Congress, and in company with a few others, he built the first railroad in the Mississippi Valley, namely, one about six miles long, leading from his coal mine in the Mississippi bluff to the bank of the river opposite St. Louis. Having not the means to purchase a locomotive, they operated it by horse-power. The next spring, however, the company sold out, at great sacrifice.

In 1839 the ex-Governor was appointed one of the Canal Commissioners, and authorized to borrow money to prosecute the enterprise. Accordingly, he repaired to Philadelphia and succeeding in obtaining a million dollars, which, however, was only a fourth of what was wanted. The same year he and his wife made at our of Europe. This year, also, Mr. Reynolds had the rather awkward little responsibility of introducing to President Van Buren the noted Mormon Prophet, Joseph Smith, as a "Latter-Day Saint!"

In 1846 Gov. Reynolds was elected a member of the Legislature from St. Clair County, more particularly for the purpose of obtaining a feasible charter for a macadamized road from Belleville to St. Louis, a distance of nearly 14 miles. This was immediately built, and was the first road of the kind in the State. He was again elected to the Legislature in 1852, when he was chosen Speaker of the House. In 1860, aged and infirm, he attended the National Democratic Convention at Charleston, S. C, as an anti-Douglas Delegate, where he received more attention from the Southern Delegates than any other member. He supported Breckenridge for the Presidency. After the October elections foreshadowed the success of Lincoln, he published an address urging the Democrats to rally to the support of Douglas. Immediately preceding and during the late war, his correspondence evinced a clear sympathy for the Southern secession, and about the first of March, 1861, he urged upon the Buchanan officials the seizure of the treasure and arms in the custom-house and arsenal at St. Louis. Mr. Reynolds was a rather talkative man, and apt in all the Western phrases and catch-words that ever gained currency, besides many cunning and odd ones of his own manufacture.

He was married twice, but had no children. He died in Belleville, in May, 1865, just after the close of the war.

Wm. Lee D. Ewing

Wm. L. D. Ewing.

WILLIAM LEE D. EWING, Governor of Illinois Nov. 3 to 17, 1834, was a native of Kentucky, and probably of Scotch ancestry. He had a fine education, was a gentleman of polished manners and refined sentiment. In 1830 John Reynolds was elected Governor of the State, and Zadok Casey Lieutenant Governor, and for the principal events that followed, and the characteristics of the times, see sketch of Gov. Reynolds. The first we see in history concerning Mr. Ewing, informs us that he was a Receiver of Public Moneys at Vandalia soon after the organization of this State, and that the public moneys in his hands were deposited in various banks, as they are usually at the present day. In 1823 the State Bank was robbed, by which disaster Mr. Ewing lost a thousand-dollar deposit.

The subject of this sketch had a commission as Colonel in the Black Hawk War, and in emergencies he acted also as Major. In the summer of 1832, when it was rumored among the whites that Black Hawk and his men had encamped somewhere on Rock River, Gen. Henry was sent on a tour of reconnoisance, and with orders to drive the Indians from the State. After some opposition from his subordinate officers, Henry resolved to proceed up Rock River in search of the enemy. On the 19th of July, early in the morning, five baggage wagons, camp equipage and all heavy and cumbersome articles were piled up and left, so that the army might make speedy and forced marches. For some miles the travel was exceedingly bad, crossing swamps and the worst thickets; but the large, fresh trail gave life and animation to the Americans. Gen. Dodge and Col. Ewing were both acting as Majors, and composed the "spy corps" or vanguard of the army. It is supposed the army marched nearly 50 miles this day, and the Indian trail they followed became fresher, and was strewed with much property and trinkets of the red-skins that they had lost or thrown away to hasten their march. During the following night there was a terrific thunder-storm, and the soldiery, with all their appurtenances, were thoroughly drenched.

On approaching nearer the Indians the next day, Gen. Dodge and Major Ewing, each commanding a battalion of men, were placed in front to bring on the battle, but the savages were not overtaken this day Forced marches were continued until they reached. Wisconsin River, where a veritable battle ensued, resulting in the death of about 68 of Black Hawk's men. The next day they continued the chase, and as soon as he discovered the trail of the Indians leading toward the Mississippi, Maj. Ewing formed his battalion in order of battle and awaited the order of Gen. Henry. The latter soon appeared on the ground and ordered a charge, which directly resulted in chasing the red warriors across the great river. Maj. Ewing and his command proved particularly efficient in war, as it seems they were the chief actors in driving the main body of the Sacs and Foxes, in-

cluding Black Hawk himself, across the Mississippi, while Gen. Atkinson, commander-in-chief of the expedition, with a body of the army, was hunting for them in another direction.

In the above affair Maj. Ewing is often referred to as a "General," which title he had derived from his connection with the militia.

It was in the latter part of the same year (1832) that Lieutenant Governor Casey was elected to Congress and Gen. Ewing, who had been elected to the Senate, was chosen to preside over that body. At the August election of 1834, Gov. Reynolds was also elected to Congress, more than a year ahead of the time at which he could actually take his seat, as was then the law. His predecessor, Charles Slade, had just died of Asiatic cholera, soon after the election, and Gov. Reynolds was chosen to serve out his unexpired term. Accordingly he set out for Washington in November of that year to take his seat in Congress, and Gen. Ewing, by virtue of his office as President of the Senate, became Governor of the State of Illinois, his term covering only a period of 15 days, namely, from the 3d to the 17th days, inclusive, of November. On the 17th the Legislature met, and Gov. Ewing transmitted to that body his message, giving a statement of the condition of the affairs of the State at that time, and urging a continuance of the policy adopted by his predecessor; and on the same day Governor elect Joseph Duncan was sworn into office, thus relieving Mr. Ewing from the responsible situation. This is the only time that such a juncture has happened in the history of Illinois.

On the 29th of December, 1835, Gen. Ewing was elected a United States Senator to serve out the unexpired term of Elias Kent Kane, deceased. The latter gentleman was a very prominent figure in the early politics of Illinois, and a county in this State is named in his honor. The election of Gen. Ewing to the Senate was a protracted struggle. His competitors were James Semple, who afterwards held several important offices in this State, and Richard M. Young, afterward a United States Senator and a Supreme Judge and a man of vast influence. On the first ballot Mr. Semple had 25 votes, Young 19 and Ewing 18. On the eighth ballot Young was dropped; the ninth and tenth stood a tie; but on the 12th Ewing received 40, to Semple 37, and was accordingly declared elected. In 1837 Mr. Ewing received some votes for a continuance of his term in Congress, when Mr. Young, just referred to, was elected. In 1842 Mr. Ewing was elected State Auditor on the ticket with Gov. Ford.

Gen. Ewing was a gentleman of culture, a lawyer by profession, and was much in public life. In person he was above medium height and of heavy build, with auburn hair, blue eyes, large-sized head and short face. He was genial, social, friendly and affable, with fair talent, though of no high degree of originality. He died March 25, 1846.

Joseph Duncan

Joseph Duncan.

JOSEPH DUNCAN, Governor 1834–8, was born at Paris, Ky., Feb. 23, 1794. At the tender age of 19 years he enlisted in the war against Great Britain, and as a soldier he acquitted himself with credit. He was an Ensign under the dauntless Croghan at Lower Sandusky, or Fort Stephenson. In Illinois he first appeared in a public capacity as Major-General of the Militia, a position which his military fame had procured him. Subsequently he became a State Senator from Jackson County, and is honorably mentioned for introducing the first bill providing for a free-school system. In 1826, when the redoubtable John P. Cook, who had previously beaten such men as John McLean, Elias Kent Kane and ex-Gov. Bond, came up for the fourth time for Congress, Mr. Duncan was brought forward against him by his friends, greatly to the surprise of all the politicians. As yet he was but little known in the State. He was an original Jackson man at that time, being attached to his political fortune in admiration of the glory of his military achievements. His chances of success against Cook were generally regarded as hopeless, but he entered upon the campaign undaunted. His speeches, though short and devoid of ornament, were full of good sense. He made a diligent canvass of the State, Mr. Cook being hindered by the condition of his health. The most that was expected of Mr. Duncan, under the circumstances, was that he would obtain a respectable vote, but without defeating Mr. Cook. The result of the campaign, however, was a source of surprise and amazement to both friends and foes, as Mr. Duncan came out 641 votes ahead! He received 6,321 votes, and Mr. Cook 5,680. Until this *denouement*, the violence of party feeling smoldering in the breasts of the people on account of the defeat of Jackson, was not duly appreciated. Aside from the great convention struggle of 1824, no other than mere local and personal considerations had ever before controlled an election in Illinois.

From the above date Mr. Duncan retained his seat in Congress until his election as Governor in August, 1834. The first and bloodless year of the Black Hawk War he was appointed by Gov. Reynolds to the position of Brigadier-General of the volunteers, and he conducted his brigade to Rock Island. But he was absent from the State, in Washington, during the gubernatorial campaign, and did not personally participate in it, but addressed circulars to his constituents. His election was, indeed, attributed to the circumstance of his absence, because his estrangement from Jackson, formerly his political idol, and also from the Democracy, largely in ascendency in the State, was complete; but while his defection was well known to his Whig friends, and even to the leading Jackson men of this State, the latter were unable to carry conviction of that fact to the masses, as mail and newspaper facilities at that day were far inferior to those of the present time. Of course the Governor was much abused afterward by the fossilized Jackson men who regarded party ties and affiliations as above all other issues that could arise; but he was doubtless

sincere in his opposition to the old hero, as the latter had vetoed several important western measures which were dear to Mr. Duncan. In his inaugural message he threw off the mask and took a bold stand against the course of the President. The measures he recommended in his message, however, were so desirable that the Legislature, although by a large majority consisting of Jackson men, could not refrain from endorsing them. These measures related mainly to banks and internal improvements.

It was while Mr. Duncan was Governor that the people of Illinois went whirling on with bank and internal improvement schemes that well nigh bankrupted the State. The hard times of 1837 came on, and the disasters that attended the inauguration of these plans and the operation of the banks were mutually charged upon the two political parties. Had any one man autocratic power to introduce and carry on any one of these measures, he would probably have succeeded to the satisfaction of the public; but as many jealous men had hold of the same plow handle, no success followed and each blamed the other for the failure. In this great vortex Gov. Duncan was carried along, suffering the like derogation of character with his fellow citizens.

At the height of the excitement the Legislature "provided for" railroads from Galena to Cairo, Alton to Shawneetown, Alton to Mount Carmel, Alton to the eastern boundary of the State in the direction of Terre Haute, Quincy *via* Springfield to the Wabash, Bloomington to Pekin, and Peoria to Warsaw,—in all about 1,300 miles of road. It also provided for the improvement of the navigation of the Kaskaskia, Illinois, Great and Little Wabash and Rock Rivers; also as a *placebo*, $200,000 in money were to be distributed to the various counties wherein no improvements were ordered to be made as above. The estimate for the expenses for all these projects was placed at a little over $10,000,000, which was not more than half enough! That would now be equal to saddling upon the State a debt of $225,000,000! It was sufficient to bankrupt the State several times over, even counting all the possible benefits.

One of the most exciting events that ever occurred in this fair State was the murder of Elijah P. Lovejoy in the fall of 1837, at Alton, during Mr. Duncan's term as Governor. Lovejoy was an "Abolitionist," editing the *Observer* at that place, and the pro-slavery slums there formed themselves into a mob, and after destroying successively three presses belonging to Mr. Lovejoy, surrounded the warehouse where the fourth press was stored away, endeavoring to destroy it, and where Lovejoy and his friends were entrenching themselves, and shot and killed the brave reformer!

About this time, also, the question of removing the State capital again came up, as the 20 years' limit for its existence at Vandalia was drawing to a close. There was, of course, considerable excitement over the matter, the two main points competing for it being Springfield and Peoria. The jealousy of the latter place is not even yet, 45 years afterward, fully allayed.

Gov. Duncan's term expired in 1838. In 1842 he was again proposed as a candidate for the Executive chair, this time by the Whig party, against Adam W. Snyder, of St. Clair County, the nominee of the Democrats. Charles W. Hunter was a third candidate for the same position. Mr. Snyder, however, died before the campaign had advanced very far, and his party substituted Thomas Ford, who was elected, receiving 46,901 votes, to 38,584 for Duncan, and 909 for Hunter. The cause of Democratic success at this time is mainly attributed to the temporary support of the Mormons which they enjoyed, and the want of any knowledge, on the part of the masses, that Mr. Ford was opposed to any given policy entertained in the respective localities.

Gov. Duncan was a man of rather limited education, but with naturally fine abilities he profited greatly by his various public services, and gathered a store of knowledge regarding public affairs which served him a ready purpose. He possessed a clear judgment, decision, confidence in himself and moral courage to carry out his convictions of right. In his deportment he was well adapted to gain the admiration of the people. His intercourse with them was both affable and dignified. His portrait at the Governor's mansion, from which the accompanying was made, represents him as having a swarthy complexion, high cheek bones, broad forehead, piercing black eyes and straight black hair.

He was a liberal patron of the Illinois College at Jacksonville, a member of its Board of Trustees, and died, after a short illness, Jan. 15, 1844, a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, leaving a wife but no children. Two children, born to them, had died in infancy.

Thos. Corbin

Thomas Carlin.

THOMAS CARLIN, the sixth Governor of the State of Illinois, serving from 1838 to 1842, was also a Kentuckian, being born near Frankfort, that State, July 18, 1789, of Irish paternity. The opportunities for an education being very meager in his native place, he, on approaching years of judgment and maturity, applied himself to those branches of learning that seemed most important, and thus became a self-made man; and his taste for reading and study remained with him through life. In 1803 his father removed to Missouri, then a part of "New Spain," where he died in 1810.

In 1812 young Carlin came to Illinois and participated in all the "ranging" service incident to the war of that period, proving himself a soldier of undaunted bravery. In 1814 he married Rebecca Huitt, and lived for four years on the bank of the Mississippi River, opposite the mouth of the Missouri, where he followed farming, and then removed to Greene County. He located the town site of Carrollton, in that county, and in 1825 made a liberal donation of land for county building purposes. He was the first Sheriff of that county after its separate organization, and afterward was twice elected. as a Jackson Democrat, to the Illinois Senate. In the Black Hawk War he commanded a spy battalion, a post of considerable danger. In 1834 he was appointed by President Jackson to the position of Receiver of Public Moneys, and to fulfill the office more conveniently he removed to the city of Quincy.

While, in 1838, the unwieldy internal improvement system of the State was in full operation, with all its expensive machinery, amidst bank suspensions throughout the United States, a great stringency in the money market everywhere, and Illinois bonds forced to sale at a heavy discount, and the "hardest times" existing that the people of the Prairie State ever saw, the general election of State officers was approaching. Discreet men who had cherished the hope of a speedy subsidence of the public infatuation, met with disappointment. A Governor and Legislature were to be elected, and these were now looked forward to for a repeal of the ruinous State policy. But the grand scheme had not yet lost its dazzling influence upon the minds of the people. Time and experience had not yet fully demonstrated its utter absurdity. Hence the question of arresting its career of profligate expenditures did not become a leading one with the dominant party during the campaign, and most of the old members of the Legislature were returned at this election.

Under these circumstances the Democrats, in State Convention assembled, nominated Mr. Carlin for the office of Governor, and S. H. Anderson for Lieutenant Governor, while the Whigs nominated Cyrus Edwards, brother of Ninian Edwards, formerly Governor, and W. H. Davidson. Edwards came out strongly for a continuance of the State policy, while Carlin remained non-committal. This was the first time that the two main political parties in this State were unembarrassed by any third party in the field. The result of the election was: Carlin, 35,573; Anderson, 30,335; Edwards, 29,629; and Davidson, 28,715.

Upon the meeting of the subsequent Legislature (1839), the retiring Governor (Duncan) in his mes-

sage spoke in emphatic terms of the impolicy of the internal improvement system, presaging the evils threatened, and urged that body to do their utmost to correct the great error; yet, on the contrary, the Legislature not only decided to continue the policy but also added to its burden by voting more appropriations and ordering more improvements. Although the money market was still stringent, a further loan of $4,000,000 was ordered for the Illinois & Michigan Canal alone. Chicago at that time began to loom up and promise to be an important city, even the great emporium of the West, as it has since indeed came to be. Ex-Gov. Reynolds, an incompetent financier, was commissioned to effect the loan, and accordingly hastened to the East on this responsible errand, and negotiated the loans, at considerable sacrifice to the State. Besides this embarrassment to Carlin's administration, the Legislature also declared that he had no authority to appoint a Secretary of State until a vacancy existed, and A. P. Field, a Whig, who had already held the post by appointment through three administrations, was determined to keep the place a while longer, in spite of Gov. Carlin's preferences. The course of the Legislature in this regard, however, was finally sustained by the Supreme Court, in a *quo warranto* case brought up before it by John A. McClernand, whom the Governor had nominated for the office. Thereupon that dignified body was denounced as a "Whig Court!" endeavoring to establish the principle of life-tenure of office.

A new law was adopted re-organizing the Judiciary, and under it five additional Supreme Judges were elected by the Legislature, namely, Thomas Ford (afterward Governor), Sidney Breese, Walter B. Scates, Samuel H. Treat and Stephen A. Douglas—all Democrats.

It was during Gov. Carlin's administration that the noisy campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" occurred, resulting in a Whig victory. This, however, did not affect Illinois politics very seriously.

Another prominent event in the West during Gov. Carlin's term of office was the excitement caused by the Mormons and their removal from Independence, Mo., to Nauvoo, Ill., in 1840. At the same time they began to figure somewhat in State politics. On account of their believing—as they thought, according to the New Testament—that they should have "all things common," and that consequently "all the earth" and all that is upon it were the "Lord's" and therefore the property of his "saints," they were suspected, and correctly, too, of committing many of the deeds of larceny, robbery, etc., that were so rife throughout this country in those days. Hence a feeling of violence grew up between the Mormons and "anti-Mormons." In the State of Missouri the Mormons always supported the Democracy until they were driven out by the Democratic government, when they turned their support to the Whigs. They were becoming numerous, and in the Legislature of 1840–1, therefore, it became a matter of great interest with both parties to conciliate these people. Through the agency of one John C. Bennett, a scamp, the Mormons succeeded in rushing through the Legislature (both parties not daring to oppose) a charter for the city of Nauvoo which virtually erected a hierarchy co-ordinate with the Federal Government itself. In the fall of 1841 the Governor of Missouri made a demand upon Gov. Carlin for the body of Joe Smith, the Mormon leader, as a fugitive from justice. Gov. Carlin issued the writ, but for some reason it was returned unserved. It was again issued in 1842, and Smith was arrested, but was either rescued by his followers or discharged by the municipal court on a writ of habeas corpus.

In December, 1841, the Democratic Convention nominated Adam W. Snyder, of Belleville, for Governor. As he had been, as a member of the Legislature, rather friendly to the Mormons, the latter naturally turned their support to the Democratic party. The next spring the Whigs nominated Ex-Gov. Duncan for the same office. In the meantime the Mormons began to grow more odious to the masses of the people, and the comparative prospects of the respective parties for success became very problematical. Mr. Snyder died in May, and Thomas Ford, a Supreme Judge, was substituted as a candidate, and was elected.

At the close of his gubernatorial term, Mr. Carlin removed back to his old home at Carrollton, where he spent the remainder of his life, as before his elevation to office, in agricultural pursuits. In 1849 he served out the unexpired term of J. D. Fry in the Illinois House of Representatives, and died Feb. 4, 1852, at his residence at Carrollton, leaving a wife and seven children.

Thomas Ford

Thomas Ford.

THOMAS FORD, Governor from 1842 to 1846, and author of a very interesting history of Illinois, was born at Uniontown, Pa., in the year 1800. His mother, after the death of her first husband (Mr. Forquer), married Robert Ford, who was killed in 1802, by the Indians in the mountains of Pennsylvania. She was consequently left in indigent circumstances, with a large family, mostly girls. With a view to better her condition, she, in 1804, removed to Missouri, where it had been customary by the Spanish Government to give land to actual settlers; but upon her arrival at St. Louis she found the country ceded to the United States, and the liberal policy toward settlers changed by the new ownership. After some sickness to herself and family, she finally removed to Illinois, and settled some three miles south of Waterloo, but the following year moved nearer the Mississippi bluffs. Here young Ford received his first schooling, under the instructions of a Mr. Humphrey, for which he had to walk three miles. His mother, though lacking a thorough education, was a woman of superior mental endowments, joined to energy and determination of character. She inculcated in her children those high-toned principles which distinguished her sons in public life. She exercised a rigid economy to provide her children an education; but George Forquer, her oldest son (six years older than Thomas Ford), at an early age had to quit school to aid by his labor in the support of the family. He afterward became an eminent man in Illinois affairs, and but for his early death would probably have been elected to the United States Senate.

Young Ford, with somewhat better opportunities, received a better education, though limited to the curriculum of the common school of those pioneer times. His mind gave early promise of superior endowments, with an inclination for mathematics. His proficiency attracted the attention of Hon. Daniel P. Cook, who became his efficient patron and friend. The latter gentleman was an eminent Illinois statesman who, as a Member of Congress, obtained a grant of 300,000 acres of land to aid in completing the Illinois & Michigan Canal, and after whom the county of Cook was named. Through the advice of

this gentleman, Mr. Ford turned his attention to the study of law; but Forquer, then merchandising, regarding his education defective, sent him to Transylvania University, where, however, he remained but one term, owing to Forquer's failure in business. On his return he alternated his law reading with teaching school for support.

In 1829 Gov. Edwards appointed him Prosecuting Attorney, and in 1831 he was re-appointed by Gov. Reynolds, and after that he was four times elected a Judge by the Legislature, without opposition, twice a Circuit Judge, once a Judge of Chicago, and as Associate Judge of the Supreme Court, when, in 1841, the latter tribunal was re-organized by the addition of five Judges, all Democrats. Ford was assigned to the Ninth Judicial Circuit, and while in this capacity he was holding Court in Ogle County he received a notice of his nomination by the Democratic Convention for the office of Governor. He immediately resigned his place and entered upon the canvass. In August, 1842, he was elected, and on the 8th of December following he was inaugurated.

All the offices which he had held were unsolicited by him. He received them upon the true Jeffersonian principle,—Never to ask and never to refuse office. Both as a lawyer and as a Judge he stood deservedly high, but his cast of intellect fitted him rather for a writer upon law than a practicing advocate in the courts. In the latter capacity he was void of the moving power of eloquence, so necessary to success with juries. As a Judge his opinions were sound, lucid and able expositions of the law. In practice, he was a stranger to the tact, skill and insinuating address of the politician, but he saw through the arts of demagogues as well as any man. He was plain in his demeanor, so much so, indeed, that at one time after the expiration of his term of office, during a session of the Legislature, he was taken by a stranger to be a seeker for the position of doorkeeper, and was waited upon at his hotel near midnight by a knot of small office-seekers with the view of effecting a "combination!"

Mr. Ford had not the "brass" of the ordinary politician, nor that impetuosity which characterizes a political leader. He cared little for money, and hardly enough for a decent support. In person he was of small stature, slender, of dark complexion, with black hair, sharp features, deep-set eyes, a pointed, aquiline nose having a decided twist to one side, and a small mouth.

The three most important events in Gov. Ford's administration were the establishment of the high financial credit of the State, the "Mormon War" and the Mexican War.

In the first of these the Governor proved himself to be eminently wise. On coming into office he found the State badly paralyzed by the ruinous effects of the notorious "internal improvement" schemes of the preceding decade, with scarcely anything to show by way of "improvement." The enterprise that seemed to be getting ahead more than all the rest was the Illinois & Michigan Canal. As this promised to be the most important thoroughfare, feasible to the people, it was well under headway in its construction. Therefore the State policy was almost concentrated upon it, in order to rush it on to completion. The bonded indebtedness of the State was growing so large as to frighten the people, and they were about ready to entertain a proposition for repudiation. But the Governor had the foresight to recommend such measures as would maintain the public credit, for which every citizen to-day feels thankful.

But perhaps the Governor is remembered more for his connection with the Mormon troubles than for anything else; for it was during his term of office that the "Latter-Day Saints" became so strong at Nauvoo, built their temple there, increased their numbers throughout the country, committed misdemeanors, taught dangerous doctrines, suffered the loss of their leader, Jo Smith, by a violent death, were driven out of Nauvoo to the far West, etc. Having been a Judge for so many years previously, Mr. Ford of course was non-committal concerning Mormon affairs, and was therefore claimed by both parties and also accused by each of sympathizing too greatly with the other side. Mormonism claiming to be a system of religion, the Governor no doubt was "between two fires," and felt compelled to touch the matter rather "gingerly," and doubtless felt greatly relieved when that pestilential people left the State. Such complicated matters, especially when religion is mixed up with them, expose every person participating in them to criticism from all parties.

The Mexican War was begun in the spring of 1845, and was continued into the gubernatorial term of Mr. Ford's successor. The Governor's connection with this war, however, was not conspicuous, as it was only administrative, commissioning officers, etc.

Ford's "History of Illinois" is a very readable and entertaining work, of 450 small octavo pages, and is destined to increase in value with the lapse of time. It exhibits a natural flow of compact and forcible thought, never failing to convey the nicest sense. In tracing with his trenchant pen the devious operations of the professional politician, in which he is inimitable, his account is open, perhaps, to the objection that *all* his contemporaries are treated as mere place-seekers, while many of them have since been judged by the people to be worthy statesmen. His writings seem slightly open to the criticism that they exhibit a little splenetic partiality against those of his contemporaries who were prominent during his term of office as Governor.

The death of Gov. Ford took place at Peoria, Ill., Nov. 2, 1850.

Aug C French

Augustus C. French.

AUGUSTUS C. FRENCH, Governor of Illinois from 1846 to 1852, was born in the town of Hill, in the State of New Hampshire, Aug. 2, 1808. He was a descendant in the fourth generation of Nathaniel French, who emigrated from England in 1687 and settled in Saybury, Mass.

In early life young French lost his father, but continued to receive instruction from an exemplary and Christian mother until he was 19 years old, when she also died, confiding to his care and trust four younger brothers and one sister. He discharged his trust with parental devotion. His education in early life was such mainly as a common school afforded. For a brief period he attended Dartmouth College, but from pecuniary causes and the care of his brothers and sister, he did not graduate. He subsequently read law, and was admitted to the Bar in 1831, and shortly afterward removed to Illinois, settling first at Albion, Edwards County, where he established himself in the practice of law. The following year he removed to Paris, Edgar County. Here he attained eminence in his profession, and entered public life by representing that county in the Legislature. A strong attachment sprang up between him and Stephen A. Douglas.

In 1839, Mr. French was appointed Receiver of the United States Land Office at Palestine, Crawford County, at which place he was a resident when elevated to the gubernatorial chair. In 1844 he was a Presidential Elector, and as such he voted for James K. Polk.

The Democratic State Convention of 1846, meeting at Springfield Feb. 10, nominated Mr. French for Governor. Other Democratic candidates were Lyman Trumbull, John Calhoun (subsequently of Lecompton Constitution notoriety), Walter B. Scates, Richard M. Young and A. W. Cavarly,—an array of very able and prominent names. Trumbull was perhaps defeated in the Convention by the rumor that he was opposed to the Illinois and Michigan Canal, as he had been a year previously. For Lieutenant Governor J. B. Wells was chosen, while other candidates were Lewis Ross, Wm. McMurtry, Newton Cloud, J. B. Hamilton and W. W. Thompson. The resolutions declared strongly against the resuscitation of the old State Banks.

The Whigs, who were in a hopeless minority, held their convention June 8, at Peoria, and selected Thomas M. Kilpatrick, of Scott County, for Governor, and Gen. Nathaniel G. Wilcox, of Schuyler, for Lieutenant Governor.

In the campaign the latter exposed Mr. French's record and connection with the passage of the internal improvement system, urging it against his election; but in the meantime the war with Mexico broke out, regarding which the Whig record was unpopular in this State. The war was the absorbing and dominating question of the period, sweeping every other political issue in its course. The election in August gave Mr. French 58,700 votes, and Kilpatrick only 36,775. Richard Eells, Abolitionist candidate for the same office, received 5,152 votes.

By the new Constitution of 1848, a new election for State officers was ordered in November of that year, before Gov. French's term was half out, and he was re-elected for the term of four years. He was therefore the incumbent for six consecutive years, the only Governor of this State who has ever served in that capacity so long at one time. As there was no organized opposition to his election, he received 67,453 votes, to 5,639 for Pierre Menard (son of the first Lieutenant Governor), 4,748 for Charles V. Dyer, 3,834 for W. L. D. Morrison, and 1,361 for James L. D. Morrison. But Wm. McMurtry, of Knox County, was elected Lieutenant Governor, in place of Joseph B. Wells, who was before elected and did not run again.

Governor French was inaugurated into office during the progress of the Mexican War, which closed during the summer of 1847, although the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was not made until Feb. 2, 1848. The policy of Gov. French's party was committed to that war, but in connection with that affair he was, of course, only an administrative officer. During his term of office, Feb. 19, 1847, the Legislature, by special permission of Congress, declared that all Government lands sold to settlers should be immediately subject to State taxation; before this they were exempt for five years after sale. By this arrangement the revenue was materially increased. About the same time, the distribution of Government land warrants among the Mexican soldiers as bounty threw upon the market a great quantity of good lands, and this enhanced the settlement of the State. The same Legislature authorized, with the recommendation of the Governor, the sale of the Northern Cross Railroad (from Springfield to Meredosia, the first in the State and now a section of the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific) It sold for $100,000 in bonds, although it had cost the State not less than a million. The salt wells and canal lands in the Saline reserve in Gallatin County, granted by the general Government to the State, were also authorized by the Governor to be sold, to apply on the State debt. In 1850, for the first time since 1839, the accruing State revenue, exclusive of specific appropriations, was sufficient to meet the current demands upon the treasury. The aggregate taxable property of the State at this time was over $100,000,000, and the population 851,470.

In 1849 the Legislature adopted the township organization law, which, however, proved defective, and was properly amended in 1851. At its session in the latter year, the General Assembly also passed a law to exempt homesteads from sale on executions This beneficent measure had been repeatedly urged upon that body by Gov. French.

In 1850 some business men in St. Louis commenced to build a dike opposite the lower part of their city on the Illinois side, to keep the Mississippi in its channel near St. Louis, instead of breaking away from them as it sometimes threatened to do. This they undertook without permission from the Legislature or Executive authority of this State; and as many of the inhabitants there complained that the scheme would inundate and ruin much valuable land, there was a slight conflict of jurisdictions, resulting in favor of the St. Louis project; and since then a good site has existed there for a city (East St. Louis), and now a score of railroads center there.

It was in September, 1850, that Congress granted to this State nearly 3,000,000 acres of land in aid of the completion of the Illinois Central Railroad, which constituted the most important epoch in the railroad—we might say internal improvement—history of the State. The road was rushed on to completion, which accelerated the settlement of the interior of the State by a good class of industrious citizens, and by the charter a good income to the State Treasury is paid in from the earnings of the road.

In 1851 the Legislature passed a law authorizing free stock banks, which was the source of much legislative discussion for a number of years.

But we have not space further to particularize concerning legislation. Gov. French's administration was not marked by any feature to be criticised, while the country was settling up as never before.

In stature, Gov. French was of medium height, squarely built, light complexioned, with ruddy face and pleasant countenance. In manners he was plain and agreeable. By nature he was somewhat diffident, but he was often very outspoken in his convictions of duty. In public speech he was not an orator, but was chaste, earnest and persuasive. In business he was accurate and methodical, and in his administration he kept up the credit of the State.

He died in 1865, at his home in Lebanon, St. Clair Co., Ill.

J. A. Matteson

Joel A. Matteson.

JOEL A. MATTESON, Governor 1853–6, was born Aug. 8, 1808, in Jefferson County, New York, to which place his father had removed from Vermont three years before. His father was a farmer in fair circumstances, but a common English education was all that his only son received. Young Joel first tempted fortune as a small tradesman in Prescott, Canada, before he was of age. He returned from that place to his home, entered an academy, taught school, visited the principal Eastern cities, improved a farm his father had given him, made a tour in the South, worked there in building railroads, experienced a storm on the Gulf of Mexico, visited the gold diggings of Northern Georgia, and returned *via* Nashville to St. Louis and through Illinois to his father's home, when he married. In 1833, having sold his farm, he removed, with his wife and one child, to Illinois, and entered a claim on Government land near the head of Au Sable River, in what is now Kendall County. At that time there were not more than two neighbors within a range of ten miles of his place, and only three or four houses between him and Chicago. He opened a large farm. His family was boarded 12 miles away while he erected a house on his claim, sleeping, during this time, under a rude pole shed. Here his life was once placed in imminent peril by a huge prairie rattlesnake sharing his bed.

In 1835 he bought largely at the Government land sales. During the speculative real-estate mania which broke out in Chicago in 1836 and spread over the State, he sold his lands under the inflation of that period and removed to Joliet. In 1838 he became a heavy contractor on the Illinois & Michigan Canal. Upon the completion of his job in 1841, when hard times prevailed, business at a stand, contracts paid in State scrip; when all the public works except the canal were abandoned, the State offered for sale 700 tons of railroad iron, which was purchased by Mr. Matteson at a bargain. This he accepted, shipped and sold at Detroit, realizing a very handsome profit, enough to pay off all his canal debts and leave him a surplus of several thousand dollars. His enterprise next prompted him to start a woolen mill at Joliet, in which he prospered, and which, after successive enlargements, became an enormous establishment.

In 1842 he was first elected a State Senator, but, by a bungling apportionment, John Pearson, a Senator holding over, was found to be in the same district, and decided to be entitled to represent it. Matteson's seat was declared vacant. Pearson, however, with a nobleness difficult to appreciate in this day of

greed for office, unwilling to represent his district under the circumstances, immediately resigned his unexpired term of two years. A bill was passed in a few hours ordering a new election, and in ten days' time Mr. Matteson was returned re-elected and took his seat as Senator. From his well-known capacity as a business man, he was made Chairman of the Committee on Finance, a position he held during this half and two full succeeding Senatorial terms, discharging its important duties with ability and faithfulness. Besides his extensive woolen-mill interest, when work was resumed on the canal under the new loan of $1,600,000 he again became a heavy contractor, and also subsequently operated largely in building railroads. Thus he showed himself a most energetic and thorough business man.

He was nominated for Governor by the Democratic State Convention which met at Springfield April 20, 1852. Other candidates before the Convention were D. L. Gregg and F. C. Sherman, of Cook; John Dement, of Lee; Thomas L. Harris, of Menard; Lewis W. Ross, of Fulton; and D. P. Bush, of Pike. Gustavus Koerner, of St. Clair, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. For the same offices the Whigs nominated Edwin B. Webb and Dexter A. Knowlton. Mr. Matteson received 80,645 votes at the election, while Mr. Webb received 64,408. Matteson's forte was not on the stump; he had not cultivated the art of oily flattery, or the faculty of being all things to all men. His intellectual qualities took rather the direction of efficient executive ability. His turn consisted not so much in the adroit management of party, or the powerful advocacy of great governmental principles, as in those more solid and enduring operations which cause the physical development and advancement of a State,—of commerce and business enterprise, into which he labored with success to lead the people. As a politician he was just and liberal in his views, and both in official and private life he then stood untainted and free from blemish. As a man, in active benevolence, social virtues and all the amiable qualities of neighbor or citizen, he had few superiors. His messages present a perspicuous array of facts as to the condition of the State, and are often couched in forcible and elegant diction.

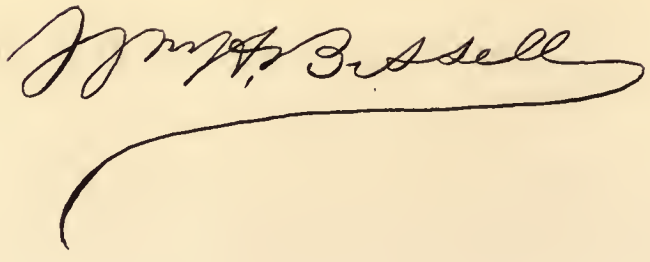
The greatest excitement during his term of office was the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, by Congress, under the leadership of Stephen A. Douglas in 1854, when the bill was passed organizing the Territory of Kansas and Nebraska. A large portion of the Whig party of the North, through their bitter opposition to the Democratic party, naturally drifted into the doctrine of anti-slavery, and thus led to what was temporarily called the "Anti-Nebraska" party, while the followers of Douglas were known as "Nebraska or Douglas Democrats." It was during this embryo stage of the Republican party that Abraham Lincoln was brought forward as the "Anti-Nebraska" candidate for the United States Senatorship, while Gen. James Shields, the incumbent, was re-nominated by the Democrats. But after a few ballotings in the Legislature (1855), these men were dropped, and Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, was brought up by the former, and Mr. Matteson, then Governor, by the latter. On the 11th ballot Mr. Trumbull obtained one majority, and was accordingly declared elected. Before Gov. Matteson's term expired, the Republicans were fully organized as a national party, and in 1856 put into the field a full national and State ticket, carrying the State, but not the nation.

The Legislature of 1855 passed two very important measures,—the present free-school system and a submission of the Maine liquor law to a vote of the people. The latter was defeated by a small majority of the popular vote.

During the four years of Gov. Matteson's administration the taxable wealth of the State was about trebled, from $137,818,079 to $349,951,272; the public debt was reduced from $17,398,985 to $12,843,144; taxation was at the same time reduced, and the State resumed paying interest on its debt in New York as fast as it fell due; railroads were increased in their mileage from something less than 400 to about 3,000; and the population of Chicago was nearly doubled, and its commerce more than quadrupled.

Before closing this account, we regret that we have to say that Mr. Matteson, in all other respects an upright man and a good Governor, was implicated in a false re-issue of redeemed canal scrip, amounting to $224,182.66. By a suit in the Sangamon Circuit Court the State recovered the principal and all the interest excepting $27,500.

He died in the winter of 1872–3, at Chicago.



William H. Bissell.

WILLIAM H. BISSELL, Governor 1857–60, was born April 25, 1811, in the State of New York, near Painted Post, Yates County. His parents were obscure, honest, God-fearing people, who reared their children under the daily example of industry and frugality, according to the custom of that class of Eastern society. Mr. Bissell received a respectable but not thorough academical education. By assiduous application he acquired a knowledge of medicine, and in his early manhood came West and located in Monroe County, this State, where he engaged in the practice of that profession. But he was not enamored of his calling: he was swayed by a broader ambition, to such an extent that the mysteries of the healing art and its arduous duties failed to yield him further any charms. In a few years he discovered his choice of a profession to be a mistake, and when he approached the age of 30 he sought to begin anew. Dr. Bissell, no doubt unexpectedly to himself, discovered a singular facility and charm of speech, the exercise of which acquired for him a ready local notoriety. It soon came to be understood that he desired to abandon his profession and take up that of the law. During terms of Court he would spend his time at the county seat among the members of the Bar, who extended to him a ready welcome.

It was not strange, therefore, that he should drift into public life. In 1840 he was elected as a Democrat to the Legislature from Monroe County, and was an efficient member of that body. On his return home he qualified himself for admission to the Bar and speedily rose to the front rank as an advocate. His powers of oratory were captivating. With a pure diction, charming and inimitable gestures, clearness of statement, and a remarkable vein of sly humor, his efforts before a jury told with irresistible effect. He was chosen by the Legislature Prosecuting Attorney for the Circuit in which he lived, and in that position he fully discharged his duty to the State, gained the esteem of the Bar, and seldom failed to convict the offender of the law.

In stature he was somewhat tall and slender, and with a straight, military bearing, he presented a distinguished appearance. His complexion was dark, his head well poised, though not large, his address pleasant and manner winning. He was exemplary in his habits, a devoted husband and kind parent. He was twice married, the first time to Miss James,

of Monroe County, by whom he had two children, both daughters. She died soon after the year 1840, and Mr. B. married for his second wife a daughter of Elias K. Kane, previously a United States Senator from this State. She survived him but a short time, and died without issue.

When the war with Mexico was declared in 1846, Mr. Bissell enlisted and was elected Colonel of his regiment, over Hon. Don Morrison, by an almost unanimous vote,—807 to 6. Considering the limited opportunities he had had, he evinced a high order of military talent. On the bloody field of Buena Vista he acquitted himself with intrepid and distinguished ability, contributing with his regiment, the Second Illinois, in no small degree toward saving the wavering fortunes of our arms during that long and fiercely contested battle.

After his return home, at the close of the war, he was elected to Congress, his opponents being the Hons. P. B. Fouke and Joseph Gillespie. He served two terms in Congress. He was an ardent politician. During the great contest of 1850 he voted in favor of the adjustment measures; but in 1854 he opposed the repeal of the Missouri Compromise act and therefore the Kansas-Nebraska bill of Douglas, and thus became identified with the nascent Republican party.

During his first Congressional term, while the Southern members were following their old practice of intimidating the North by bullying language, and claiming most of the credit for victories in the Mexican War, and Jefferson Davis claiming for the Mississippi troops all the credit for success at Buena Vista, Mr. Bissell bravely defended the Northern troops; whereupon Davis challenged Bissell to a duel, which was accepted. This matter was brought up against Bissell when he was candidate for Governor and during his term of office, as the Constitution of this State forbade any duelist from holding a State office.

In 1856, when the Republican party first put forth a candidate, John C. Fremont, for President of the United States, the same party nominated Mr. Bissell for Governor of Illinois, and John Wood, of Quincy, for Lieutenant Governor, while the Democrats nominated Hon. W. A. Richardson, of Adams County, for Governor, and Col. R. J. Hamilton, of Cook County, for Lieutenant Governor. The result of the election was a plurality of 4,729 votes over Richardson. The American, or Know-Nothing, party had a ticket in the field. The Legislature was nearly balanced, but was politically opposed to the Governor. His message to the Legislature was short and rather ordinary, and was criticised for expressing the supposed obligations of the people to the incorporators of the Illinois Central Railroad Company and for re-opening the slavery question by allusions to the Kansas troubles. Late in the session an apportionment bill, based upon the State census of 1855, was passed, amid much partisan strife. The Governor at first signed the bill and then vetoed it. A furious debate followed, and the question whether the Governor had the authority to recall a signature was referred to the Courts, that of last resort deciding in favor of the Governor. Two years afterward another outrageous attempt was made for a re-apportionment and to gerrymander the State, but the Legislature failed to pass the bill over the veto of the Governor.

It was during Gov. Bissell's administration that the notorious canal scrip fraud was brought to light, implicating ex-Gov. Matteson and other prominent State officials. The principal and interest, aggregating $255,500, was all recovered by the State excepting $27,500. (See sketch of Gov. Matteson.)

In 1859 an attempt was discovered to fraudulently refund the Macalister and Stebbins bonds and thus rob the State Treasury of nearly a quarter of a million dollars. The State Government was implicated in this affair, and to this day remains unexplained or unatoned for. For the above, and other matters previously mentioned, Gov. Bissell has been severely criticised, and he has also been most shamefully libelled and slandered.

On account of exposure in the army, the remote cause of a nervous form of disease gained entrance into his system and eventually developed paraplegia, affecting his lower extremities, which, while it left his body in comparative health, deprived him of locomotion except by the aid of crutches. While he was generally hopeful of ultimate recovery, this mysterious disease pursued him, without once relaxing its stealthy hold, to the close of his life, March 18, 1860, over nine months before the expiration of his gubernatorial term, at the early age of 48 years. He died in the faith of the Roman Catholic Church, of which he had been a member since 1854.

John Wood

John Wood.

JOHN WOOD, Governor 1860–1, and the first settler of Quincy, Ill., was born in the town of Sempronius (now Moravia), Cayuga Co., N. Y., Dec. 20, 1798. He was the second child and only son of Dr. Daniel Wood. His mother, *nee* Catherine Crause, was of German parentage, and died while he was an infant. Dr. Wood was a learned and skillful physician, of classical attainments and proficient in several modern languages, who, after serving throughout the Revolutionary War as a Surgeon, settled on the land granted him by the Government, and resided there a respected and leading influence in his section until his death, at the ripe age of 92 years.

The subject of this sketch, impelled by the spirit of Western adventure then pervading everywhere, left his home, Nov. 2, 1818, and passed the succeeding winter in Cincinnati, Ohio. The following summer he pushed on to Illinois, landing at Shawneetown, and spent the fall and following winter in Calhoun County. In 1820, in company with Willard Keyes, he settled in Pike County, about 30 miles southeast of Quincy, where for the next two years he pursued farming. In 1821 he visited "the Bluffs" (as the present site of Quincy was called, then uninhabited) and, pleased with its prospects, soon after purchased a quarter-section of land near by, and in the following fall (1822) erected near the river a small cabin, 18 x 20 feet, the first building in Quincy, of which he then became the first and for some months the only occupant.

About this time he visited his old friends in Pike County, chief of whom was William Ross, the leading man in building up the village of Atlas, of that county, which was thought then to be the possible commencement of a city. One day they and others were traveling together over the country between the two points named, making observations on the comparative merits of the respective localities. On approaching the Mississippi near Mr. Wood's place, the latter told his companions to follow him and he would show them where he was going to build a city. They went about a mile off the main trail, to a high point, from which the view in every direction was most magnificent, as it had been for ages and as yet untouched by the hand of man. Before them swept by the majestic Father of Waters, yet unburdened by navigation. After Mr. Wood had expatiated at length on the advantages of the situation, Mr. Ross replied, "But it's too near Atlas ever to amount to anything!"

Atlas is still a cultivated farm, and Quincy is a city of over 30,000 population.

In 1824 Mr. Wood gave a newspaper notice, as the law then prescribed, of his intention to apply to the General Assembly for the formation of a new county. This was done the following winter, resulting in the establishment of the present Adams County. During the next summer Quincy was selected as the county seat, it and the vicinity then containing but four adult male residents and half

that number of females. Since that period Mr. Wood resided at the place of his early adoption until his death, and far more than any other man was he identified with every measure of its progress and history, and almost continuously kept in public positions.

He was one of the early town Trustees, and after the place became a city he was often a member of the City Council, many times elected Mayor, in the face of a constant large opposition political majority. In 1850 he was elected to the State Senate. In 1856, on the organization of the Republican party, he was chosen Lieutenant Governor of the State, on the ticket with Wm. H. Bissell for Governor, and on the death of the latter, March 18, 1860, he succeeded to the Chief Executive chair, which he occupied until Gov. Yates was inaugurated nearly ten months afterward.

Nothing very marked characterized the administration of Gov. Wood. The great anti-slavery campaign of 1860, resulting in the election of the honest Illinoisan, Abraham Lincoln, to the Presidency of the United States, occurred during the short period while Mr. Wood was Governor, and the excitement and issues of that struggle dominated over every other consideration,—indeed, supplanted them in a great measure. The people of Illinois, during all that time, were passing the comparatively petty strifes under Bissell's administration to the overwhelming issue of preserving the whole nation from destruction.

In 1861 ex-Gov. Wood was one of the five Delegates from Illinois to the "Peace Convention" at Washington, and in April of the same year, on the breaking out of the Rebellion, he was appointed Quartermaster-General of the State, which position he held throughout the war. In 1864 he took command as Colonel of the 137th Ill. Vol. Inf., with whom he served until the period of enlistment expired.

Politically, Gov. Wood was always actively identified with the Whig and Republican parties. Few men have in personal experience comprehended so many surprising and advancing local changes as vested in the more than half century recollections of Gov. Wood. Sixty-four years ago a solitary settler on the "Bluffs," with no family, and no neighbor within a score of miles, the world of civilization away behind him, and the strolling red-man almost his only visitant, he lived to see growing around him, and under his auspices and aid, overspreading the wild hills and scraggy forest a teaming city, second only in size in the State, and surpassed nowhere in beauty, prosperity and promise; whose people recognize as with a single voice the proverbial honor and liberality that attach to the name and lengthened life of their pioneer settler, "the old Governor."

Gov. Wood was twice married,—first in January, 1826, to Ann M. Streeter, daughter of Joshua Streeter, formerly of Salem, Washington Co., N. Y. They had eight children. Mrs. W. died Oct. 8, 1863, and in June, 1865, Gov. Wood married Mrs. Mary A., widow of Rev. Joseph T. Holmes. Gov. Wood died June 4, 1880, at his residence in Quincy. Four of his eight children are now living, namely: Ann E., wife of Gen. John Tillson; Daniel C., who married Mary J. Abernethy; John, Jr., who married Josephine Skinner, and Joshua S., who married Annie Bradley. The last mentioned now resides at Atchison, Kansas, and all the rest are still at Quincy.

Richd. Yates

Richard Yates.

RICHARD YATES, the "War Governor," 1861–4, was born Jan. 18, 1818, on the banks of the Ohio River, at Warsaw, Gallatin Co., Ky. His father moved in 1831 to Illinois, and, after stopping for a time in Springfield, settled at Island Grove, Sangamon County. Here, after attending school, Richard joined the family. Subsequently he entered Illinois College at Jacksonville, where, in 1837, he graduated with first honors. He chose for his profession the law, the Hon. J. J. Hardin being his instructor. After admission to the Bar he soon rose to distinction as an advocate.

Gifted with a fluent and ready oratory, he soon appeared in the political hustings, and, being a passionate admirer of the great Whig leader of the West. Henry Clay, he joined his political fortunes to the party of his idol. In 1840 he engaged with great ardor in the exciting "hard cider" campaign for Harrison. Two years later he was elected to the Legislature from Morgan County, a Democratic stronghold. He served three or four terms in the Legislature, and such was the fascination of his oratory that by 1850 his large Congressional District, extending from Morgan and Sangamon Counties north to include LaSalle, unanimously tendered him the Whig nomination for Congress. His Democratic opponent was Maj. Thomas L. Harris, a very popular man who had won distinction at the battle of Cerro Gordo, in the Mexican War, and who had beaten Hon. Stephen T. Logan for the same position, two years before, by a large majority. Yates was elected. Two years later he was re-elected, over John Calhoun.

It was during Yates second term in Congress that the great question of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise was agitated, and the bars laid down for re-opening the dreaded anti-slavery question. He took strong grounds against the repeal, and thus became identified with the rising Republican party. Consequently he fell into the minority in his district, which was pro-slavery. Even then, in a third contest, he fell behind Major Harris only 200 votes, after the district had two years before given Pierce 2,000 majority for President.

The Republican State Convention of 1860 met at Decatur May 9, and nominated for the office of Governor Mr. Yates, in preference to Hon. Norman B. Judd, of Chicago, and Leonard Swett, of Bloomington, two of the ablest men of the State, who were also candidates before the Convention. Francis A. Hoffman, of DuPage County, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. This was the year when Mr. Lincoln was a candidate for President, a period remembered as characterized by the great whirlpool which precipitated the bloody War of the Rebellion. The Douglas Democrats nominated J. C. Allen of Crawford County, for Governor, and Lewis W. Ross, of Fulton County, for Lieutenant Governor. The Breckenridge Democrats and the Bell-Everett party had also full tickets in the field. After a most fearful campaign, the result of the election gave Mr. Yates 172,196 votes, and Mr. Allen 159,253. Mr. Yates received over a thousand more votes than did Mr. Lincoln himself.

Gov. Yates occupied the chair of State during the

most critical period of our country's history. In the fate of the nation was involved that of each State. The life struggle of the former derived its sustenance from the loyalty of the latter; and Gov. Yates seemed to realize the situation, and proved himself both loyal and wise in upholding the Government. He had a deep hold upon the affections of the people, won by his moving eloquence and genial manners. Erect and symmetrical in person, of prepossessing appearance, with a winning address and a magnetic power, few men possessed more of the elements of popularity. His oratory was scholarly and captivating, his hearers hardly knowing why they were transported. He was social and convivial. In the latter respect he was ultimately carried too far.

The very creditable military efforts of this State during the War of the Rebellion, in putting into the field the enormous number of about 200,000 soldiers, were ever promptly and ably seconded by his excellency; and the was ambitious to deserve the title of "the soldier's friend." Immediately after the battle of Shiloh he repaired to the field of carnage to look after the wounded, and his appeals for aid were promptly responded to by the people. His proclamations calling for volunteers were impassionate appeals, urging upon the people the duties and requirements of patriotism; and his special message in 1863 to the Democratic Legislature of this State pleading for material aid for the sick and wounded soldiers of Illinois regiments, breathes a deep fervor of noble sentiment and feeling rarely equaled in beauty or felicity of expression. Generally his messages on political and civil affairs were able and comprehensive. During his administration, however, there were no civil events of an engrossing character, although two years of his time were replete with partisan quarrels of great bitterness. Military arrests, Knights of the Golden Circle, riot in Fulton County, attempted suppression of the Chicago *Times* and the usurping State Constitutional Convention of 1862, were the chief local topics that were exciting during the Governor's term. This Convention assembled Jan. 7, and at once took the high position that the law calling it was no longer binding, and that it had supreme power; that it represented a virtual assemblage of the whole people of the State, and was sovereign in the exercise of all power necessary to effect a peaceable revolution of the State Government and to the re-establishment of one for the "happiness, prosperity and freedom of the citizens," limited only by the Federal Constitution. Notwithstanding the law calling the Convention required its members to take an oath to support the Constitution of the State as well as that of the general Government, they utterly refused to take such oath. They also assumed legislative powers and passed several important "laws!" Interfering with the (then) present executive duties, Gov. Yates was provoked to tell them plainly that "he did not acknowledge the right of the Convention to instruct him in the performance of his duty."

In 1863 the Governor astonished the Democrats by "proroguing" their Legislature. This body, after a recess, met June 2, that year, and soon began to waste time upon various partisan resolutions; and, while the two houses were disagreeing upon the question of adjourning *sine die*, the Governor, having the authority in such cases, surprised them all by adjourning them "to the Saturday next preceding the first Monday in January, 1865!" This led to great excitement and confusion, and to a reference of the Governor's act to the Supreme Court, who decided in his favor. Then it was the Court's turn to receive abuse for weeks and months afterward.

During the autumn of 1864 a conspiracy was detected at Chicago which had for its object the liberation of the prisoners of war at Camp Douglas, the burning of the city and the inauguration of rebellion in the North. Gen. Sweet, who had charge of the camp at the time, first had his suspicions of danger aroused by a number of enigmatically worded letters which passed through the Camp postoffice. A detective afterward discovered that the rebel Gen. Marmaduke was in the city, under an assumed name, and he, with other rebel officers—Grenfell, Morgan, Cantrell, Buckner Morris, and Charles Walsh—was arrested, most of whom were convicted by a court-martial at Cincinnati and sentenced to imprisonment,—Grenfell to be hung. The sentence of the latter was afterward commuted to imprisonment for life, and all the others, after nine months' imprisonment, were pardoned.

In March, 1873, Gov. Yates was appointed a Government Director of the Union Pacific Railroad, in which office he continued until his decease, at St. Louis, Mo., on the 27th of November following.

R. J. Oglesby

Richard J. Oglesby.

RICHARD J. OGLESBY, Governor 1865–8, and re-elected in 1872 and 1884, was born July 25, 1824, in Oldham Co., Ky.,—the State which might be considered the "mother of Illinois Governors." Bereft of his parents at the tender age of eight years, his early education was neglected. When 12 years of age, and after he had worked a year and a half at the carpenter's trade, he removed with an uncle, Willis Oglesby, into whose care he had been committed, to Decatur, this State, where he continued his apprenticeship as a mechanic, working six months for Hon. E. O. Smith.

In 1844 he commenced studying law at Springfield, with Judge Silas Robbins, and read with him one year. He was admitted to the Bar in 1845, and commenced the practice of his chosen profession at Sullivan, the county seat of Moultrie County.

The next year the war with Mexico was commenced, and in June, 1846, Mr. Oglesby volunteered, was elected First Lieutenant of Co. C, Fourth Illinois Regiment of Volunteers, and participated in the battles of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo.

On his return he sought to perfect his law studies by attending a course of lectures at Louisville, but on the breaking out of the California "gold fever" in 1849, he crossed the plains and mountains to the new Eldorado, driving a six-mule team, with a company of eight men, Henry Prather being the leader.

In 1852 he returned home to Macon County, and was placed that year by the Whig party on the ticket of Presidential Electors. In 1856 he visited Europe, Asia and Africa, being absent 20 months. On his return home he resumed the practice of law, as a member of the firm of Gallagher, Wait & Oglesby. In 1858 he was the Republican nominee for the Lower House of Congress, but was defeated by the Hon. James C. Robinson, Democrat. In 1860 he was elected to the Illinois State Senate; and on the evening the returns of this election were coming in, Mr. Oglesby had a fisticuff encounter with "Cerro Gordo Williams," in which he came out victorious, and which was regarded as "the first fight of the Rebellion." The following spring, when the war had commenced in earnest, his ardent nature quickly responded to the demands of patriotism and he enlisted. The extra session of the Legislature elected him Colonel of the Eighth Illinois Infantry, the second one in the State raised to suppress the great Rebellion.

He was shortly entrusted with important commands. For a time he was stationed at Bird's Point and Cairo; in April he was promoted Brigadier General; at Fort Donelson his brigade was in the van, being stationed on the right of General Grant's army and the first brigade to be attacked. He lost 500 men before re-inforcements arrived. Many of these men were from Macon County. He was engaged in the battle of Corinth, and, in a brave charge at this place, was shot in the left lung with an ounce ball, and was carried from the field in expectation of im-

mediate death. That rebel ball he carries to this day. On his partial recovery he was promoted as Major General, for gallantry, his commission to rank from November, 1862. In the spring of 1863 he was assigned to the command of the 16th Army Corps, but, owing to inability from the effects of his wound, he relinquished this command in July, that year. Gen. Grant, however, refused to accept his resignation, and he was detailed, in December following, to court-martial and try the Surgeon General of the Army at Washington, where he remained until May, 1864, when he returned home.

The Republican, or Union, State Convention of 1864 was held at Springfield, May 25, when Mr. Oglesby was nominated for the office of Governor, while other candidates before the Convention were Allen C. Fuller, of Boone, Jesse K. Dubois, of Sangamon, and John M. Palmer, of Macoupin. Wm. Bross, of Chicago, was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. On the Democratic State ticket were James C. Robinson, of Clark, for Governor, and S. Corning Judd, of Fulton, for Lieutenant Governor. The general election gave Gen. Oglesby a majority of about 31,000 votes. The Republicans had also a majority in both the Legislature and in the representation in Congress.

Gov. Oglesby was duly inaugurated Jan. 17, 1865. The day before the first time set for his installation death visited his home at Decatur, and took from it his only son, an intelligent and sprightly lad of six years, a great favorite of the bereaved parents. This caused the inauguration to be postponed a week.

The political events of the Legislative session of 1865 were the election of ex-Gov. Yates to the United States Senate, and the ratification of the 13th amendment to the Constitution of the United States, abolishing slavery. This session also signalized itself by repealing the notorious "black laws," part of which, although a dead letter, had held their place upon the statute books since 1819. Also, laws requiring the registration of voters, and establishing a State Board of Equalization, were passed by this Legislature. But the same body evinced that it was corruptly influenced by a mercenary lobby, as it adopted some bad legislation, over the Governor's veto, notably an amendment to a charter for a Chicago horse railway, granted in 1859 for 25 years, and now sought to be extended 99 years. As this measure was promptly passed over his veto by both branches of the Legislature, he deemed it useless further to attempt to check their headlong career. At this session no law of a general useful character or public interest was perfected, unless we count such the turning over of the canal to Chicago to be deepened. The session of 1867 was still more productive of private and special acts. Many omnibus bills were proposed, and some passed. The contests over the location of the Industrial College, the Capital, the Southern Penitentiary, and the canal enlargement and Illinois River improvement, dominated everything else.

During the year 1872, it became evident that if the Republicans could re-elect Mr. Oglesby to the office of Governor, they could also elect him to the United States Senate, which they desired to do. Accordingly they re-nominated him for the Executive chair, and placed upon the ticket with him for Lieutenant Governor, John L. Beveridge, of Cook County. On the other side the Democrats put into the field Gustavus Koerner for Governor and John C. Black for Lieutenant Governor. The election gave the Republican ticket majorities ranging from 35,334 to 56,174,—the Democratic defection being caused mainly by their having an old-time Whig and Abolitionist, Horace Greeley, on the national ticket for President. According to the general understanding had beforehand, as soon as the Legislature met it elected Gov. Oglesby to the United States Senate, whereupon Mr. Beveridge became Governor. Senator Oglesby's term expired March 4, 1879, having served his party faithfully and exhibited an order of statesmanship beyond criticism.

During the campaign of 1884 Mr. Oglesby was nominated for a "third term" as Executive of the State of Illinois, against Carter H. Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, nominated by the Democrats. Both gentlemen "stumped" the State, and while the people elected a Legislature which was a tie on a joint ballot, as between the two parties, they gave the jovial "Dick" Oglesby a majority of 15,018 for Governor, and he was inaugurated Jan. 30, 1885. The Legislature did not fully organize until this date, on account of its equal division between the two main parties and the consequent desperate tactics of each party to checkmate the latter in the organization of the House.

Gov. Oglesby is a fine-appearing, affable man, with regular, well defined features and rotund face. In stature he is a little above medium height, of a large frame and somewhat fleshy. His physical appearance is striking and prepossessing, while his straightout, not to say bluff, manner and speech are well calculated favorably to impress the average masses. Ardent in feeling and strongly committed to the policies of his party, he intensifies Republicanism among Republicans, while at the same time his jovial and liberal manner prevents those of the opposite party from hating him.

He is quite an effective stump orator. With vehement, passionate and scornful tone and gestures, tremendous physical power, which in speaking he exercises to the utmost; with frequent descents to the grotesque; and with abundant homely comparisons or frontier figures, expressed in the broadest vernacular and enforced with stentorian emphasis, he delights a promiscuous audience beyond measure.

John M. Palmer

JOHN M. PALMER

JOHN Mc AULEY PALMER, Governor 1869–72, was born on Eagle Creek, Scott Co., Ky., Sept. 13, 1817. During his infancy, his father, who had been a soldier in the war of 1812, removed to Christian Co., Ky., where lands were cheap. Here the future Governor of the great Prairie State spent his childhood and received such meager schooling as the new and sparsely settled country afforded. To this he added materially by diligent reading, for which he evinced an early aptitude. His father, an ardent Jackson man, was also noted for his anti-slavery sentiments, which he thoroughly impressed upon his children. In 1831 he emigrated to Illinois, settling in Madison County. Here the labor of improving a farm was pursued for about two years, when the death of Mr. Palmer's mother broke up the family. About this time Alton College was opened, on the "manual labor" system, and in the spring of 1834 young Palmer, with his elder brother, Elihu, entered this school and remained 18 months. Next, for over three years, he tried variously coopering, peddling and school-teaching.

During the summer of 1838 he formed the acquaintance of Stephen A Douglas, then making his first canvass for Congress. Young, eloquent and in political accord with Mr. Palmer, he won his confidence, fired his ambition and fixed his purpose. The following winter, while teaching near Canton, he began to devote his spare time to a desultory reading of law, and in the spring entered a law office at Carlinville, making his home with his elder brother, Elihu. (The latter was a learned clergyman, of considerable orginality of thought and doctrine.) On the next meeting of the Supreme Court he was admitted to the Bar, Douglas being one of his examiners. He was not immediately successful in his profession, and would have located elsewhere than Carlinville had he the requisite means. Thus his early poverty was a blessing in disguise, for to it he now attributes the success of his life.

From 1839 on, while he diligently pursued his profession, he participated more or less in local politics. In 1843 he became Probate Judge. In 1847 he was elected to the State Constitutional Convention, where he took a leading part. In 1852 he was elected to the State Senate, and at the special session of February, 1854, true to the anti-slavery sentiments bred in him, he took a firm stand in opposition to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and when the Nebraska question became a party issue he refused to receive a re-nomination for the Senatorship at the hands of the Democracy, issuing a circular to that effect. A few weeks afterward

however, hesitating to break with his party, he participated in a Congressional Convention which nomi- T. L. Harris against Richard Yates, and which unqualifiedly approved the principles of the Kansas-Nebraska act. But later in the campaign he made the plunge, ran for the Senate as an Anti-Nebraska Democrat, and was elected. The following winter he put in nomination for the United States Senate Mr. Trumbull, and was one of the five steadfast men who voted for him until all the Whigs came to their support and elected their man.

In 1856 he was Chairman of the Republican State Convention at Bloomington. He ran for Congress in 1859, but was defeated. In 1860 he was Republican Presidential Elector for the State at large. In 1861 he was appointed one of the five Delegates (all Republicans) sent by Illinois to the peace congress at Washington.

When the civil conflict broke out, he offered his services to his country, and was elected Colonel of the 14th Ill. Vol. Inf., and participated in the engagements at Island No. 10; at Farmington, where he skillfully extricated his command from a dangerous position; at Stone River, where his division for several hours, Dec. 31, 1862, held the advance and stood like a rock, and for his gallantry there he was made Major General; at Chickamauga, where his and Van Cleve's divisions for two hours maintained their position when they were cut off by overpowering numbers Under Gen. Sherman, he was assigned to the 14th Army Corps and participated in the Atlanta campaign. At Peach-Tree Creek his prudence did much to avert disaster. In February, 1865, Gen. Palmer was assigned to the military administration of Kentucky, which was a delicate post. That State was about half rebel and half Union, and those of the latter element were daily fretted by the loss of their slaves. He, who had been bred to the rules of common law, trembled at the contemplation of his extraordinary power over the persons and property of his fellow men, with which he was vested in his capacity as military Governor; and he exhibited great caution in the execution of the duties of his post.

Gen. Palmer was nominated for Governor of Illinois by the Republican State Convention which met at Peoria May 6, 1868, and his nomination would probably have been made by acclamation had he not persistently declared that he could not accept a candidature for the office. The result of the ensuing election gave Mr. Palmer a majority of 44,707 over John R. Eden, the Democratic nominee.

On the meeting of the Legislature in January, 1869, the first thing to arrest public attention was that portion of the Governor's message which took broad State's rights ground. This and some minor points, which were more in keeping with the Democratic sentiment, constituted the entering wedge for the criticisms and reproofs he afterward received from the Republican party, and ultimately resulted in his entire aleniation from the latter element. The Legislature just referred to was noted for the introduction of numerous bills in the interest of private parties, which were embarrassing to the Governor. Among the public acts passed was that which limited railroad charges for passenger travel to a maximum of three cents per mile; and it was passed over the Governor's veto. Also, they passed, over his veto, the "tax-grabbing law" to pay railroad subscriptions, the Chicago Lake Front bill, etc. The new State Constitution of 1870, far superior to the old, was a peaceful "revolution" which took place during Gov. Palmer's term of office. The suffering caused by the great Chicago Fire of October, 1871, was greatly alleviated by the prompt responses of his excellency.

Since the expiration of Gov. Palmers's term, he has been somewhat prominent in Illinois politics, and has been talked of by many, especially in the Democratic party, as the best man in the State for a United States Senator. His business during life has been that of the law. Few excel him in an accurate appreciation of the depth and scope of its principles. The great number of his able veto messages abundantly testify not only this but also a rare capacity to point them out. He is a logical and cogent reasoner and an interesting, forcible and convincing speaker, though not fluent or ornate. Without brilliancy, his dealings are rather with facts and ideas than with appeals to passions and prejudices. He is a patriot and a statesman of very high order. Physically he is above the medium height, of robust frame, ruddy complexion and sanguine-nervous temperament. He has a large cranial development, is vivacious, social in disposition, easy of approach, unostentatious in his habits of life, democratic in his habits and manners and is a true American in his fundamental principles of statesmanship.

John L. Beverley

John L. Beveridge.

JOHN LOWRIE BEVERIDGE, Governor 1873-6, was born in the town of Greenwich, Washington Co., N. Y., July 6, 1824. His parents were George and Ann Beveridge. His father's parents, Andrew and Isabel Beveridge, before their marriage emigrated from Scotland just before the Revolutionary War, settling in Washington County. His father was the eldest of eight brothers, the youngest of whom was 60 years of age when the first one of the number died. His mother's parents, James and Agnes Hoy, emigrated from Scotland at the close of the Revolutionary War, settling also in Washington Co., N. Y., with their first-born, whose "native land" was the wild ocean. His parents and grandparents lived beyond the time allotted to man, their average age being over 80 years. They belonged to the "Associate Church," a seceding Presbyterian body of America from the old Scotch school; and so rigid was the training of young Beveridge that he never heard a sermon from any other minister except that of his own denomination until he was in his 19th year. Later in life he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, which relation he still holds.

Mr. Beveridge received a good common-school education, but his parents, who could obtain a livelihood only by rigid economy and industry, could not send him away to college. He was raised upon a farm, and was in his 18th year when the family removed to De Kalb County, this State, when that section was very sparsely settled. Chicago had less than 7,000 inhabitants. In this wild West he continued as a farm laborer, teaching school during the winter months to supply the means of an education. In the fall of 1842 he attended one term at the academy at Granville, Putnam Co., Ill., and subsequently several terms at the Rock River Seminary at Mount Morris, Ogle Co., Ill., completing the academic course. At this time, the fall of 1845, his parents and brothers were anxious to have him go to college, even though he had not money sufficient; but, not willing to burden the family, he packed his trunk and with only $40 in money started South to seek his fortune.

Poor, alone, without friends and influence, he thus entered upon the battle of life.

First, he taught school in Wilson, Overton and Jackson Cos., Tenn., in which experience he underwent considerable mental drill, both in book studies and in the ways of the world. He read law and was admitted to the Bar, in the South, but did not learn to love the institution of slavery, although he admired many features of Southern character. In December, 1847, he returned North, and Jan. 20, 1848, he married Miss Helen M. Judson, in the old Clark-Street M. E. church in Chicago, her father at that time being Pastor of the society there. In the spring of 1848 he returned with his wife to Tennessee, where his two children, Alla May and Philo Judson, were born.

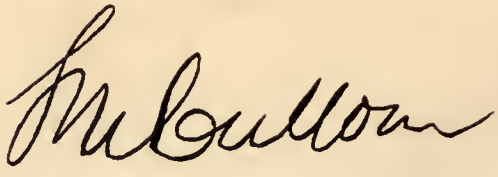
In the fall of 1849, through the mismanagement of an associate, he lost what little he had accumulated and was left in debt. He soon managed to earn means to pay his debts, returned to De Kalb Co., Ill., and entered upon the practice of his profession at Sycamore, the county seat. On arrival from the South he had but one-quarter of a dollar in money, and scanty clothing and bedding for himself and family. He borrowed a little money, practiced law, worked in public offices, kept books for some of the business men of the town, and some railroad engineering, till the spring of 1854, when he removed to Evanston, 12 miles north of Chicago, a place then but recently laid out, under the supervision of the Northwestern University, a Methodist institution. Of the latter his father-in-law was then financial agent and business manager. Here Mr. Beveridge prospered, and the next year (1855) opened a law office in Chicago, where he found the battle somewhat hard; but he persevered with encouragement and increasing success.

Aug. 12, 1861, his law partner, Gen. John F. Farnsworth, secured authority to raise a regiment of cavalry, and authorized Mr. Beveridge to raise a company for it. He succeeded in a few days in raising the company, of course enlisting himself along with it. The regiment rendezvoused at St. Charles, Ill., was mustered in Sept. 18, and on its organization Mr. B. was elected Second Major. It was attached, Oct. 11, to the Eighth Cavalry and to the Army of the Potomac. He served with the regiment until November, 1863, participating in some 40 battles and skirmishes: was at Fair Oaks, the seven days' fight around Richmond, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He commanded the regiment the greater part of the summer of 1863, and it was while lying in camp this year that he originated the policy of encouraging recruits as well as the fighting capacity of the soldiery, by the wholesale furlough system. It worked so well that many other officers adopted it. In the fall of this year he recruited another company, against heavy odds, in January, 1864, was commissioned Colonel of the 17th Ill. Cav., and skirmished around in Missouri, concluding with the reception of the surrender of Gen. Kirby Smith's army in Arkansas. In 1865 he commanded various sub-districts in the Southwest. He was mustered out Feb. 6, 1866, safe from the casualties of war and a stouter man than when he first enlisted. His men idolized him.

He then returned to Chicago, to practice law, with no library and no clientage, and no political experience except to help others into office. In the fall of 1866 he was elected Sheriff of Cook County, serving one term; next, until November, 1870, he practiced law and closed up the unfinished business of his office. He was then elected State Senator; in November, 1871, he was elected Congressman at large; in November, 1872, he was elected Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with Gov. Oglesby; the latter being elected to the U. S. Senate, Mr. Beveridge became Governor, Jan. 21, 1873. Thus, inside of a few weeks, he was Congressman at large, Lieutenant Governor and Governor. The principal events occurring during Gov. Beveridge's administration were: The completion of the revision of the statutes, begun in 1869; the partial success of the "farmers' movement;" "Haines' Legislature" and Illinois' exhibit at the Centennial.

Since the close of his gubernatorial term ex-Gov. Beveridge has been a member of the firm of Beveridge & Dewey, bankers and dealers in commercial paper at 71 Dearborn Street (McCormick Block), Chicago, and since November, 1881, he has also been Assistant United States Treasurer: office in the Government Building. His residence is still at Evanston.

He has a brother and two sisters yet residing in De Kalb County—James H. Beveridge, Mrs. Jennet Henry and Mrs. Isabel French.



SHELBY M. CULLOM.

SHELBY M. CULLOM, Governor 1877–83, is the sixth child of the late Richard N. Cullom, and was born Nov. 22, 1829, in Wayne Co., Ky., where his father then resided, and whence both the Illinois and Tennessee branches of the family originated. In the following year the family emigrated to the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., when that section was very sparsely settled. They located on Deer Creek, in a grove at the time occupied by a party of Indians, attracted there by the superior hunting and fishing afforded in that vicinity. The following winter was known as the "hard winter," the snow being very deep and lasting and the weather severely cold; and the family had to subsist mainly on boiled corn or hominy, and some wild game, for several weeks. In the course of time Mr. R. N. Cullom became a prominent citizen and was several times elected to the Legislature, both before and after the removal of the capital from Vandalia to Springfield. He died about 1873.

Until about 19 years of age young Cullom grew up to agricultural pursuits, attending school as he had opportunity during the winter. Within this time, however, he spent several months teaching school, and in the following summer he "broke prairie" with an ox team for the neighbors. With the money obtained by these various ventures, he undertook a course of study at the Rock River Seminary, a Methodist institution at Mt. Morris, Ogle County; but the sudden change to the in-door life of a student told severely upon his health, and he was taken home, being considered in a hopeless condition. While at Mt. Morris he heard Hon. E. B. Washburne make his first speech.

On recovering health, Mr. Cullom concluded to study law, under the instruction of Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, who had by this time attained some notoriety as an able lawyer; but the latter, being absent from his office most of the time, advised Mr. Cullom to enter the office of Stuart & Edwards. After about a year of study there, however, his health failed again, and he was obliged to return once more to out-door life. Accordingly he bought hogs for packing, for A. G. Tyng, in Peoria, and while he regained his health he gained in purse, netting $400 in a few weeks. Having been admitted to the Bar, he went to Springfield, where he was soon elected City Attorney, on the Anti-Nebraska ticket.

In 1856 he ran on the Fillmore ticket as a Presidential Elector, and, although failing to be elected as such, he was at the same time elected a Representative in the Legislature from Sangamon County, by a local coalition of the American and Republican parties. On the organization of the House, he received the vote of the Fillmore men for Speaker. Practicing

law until 1860, he was again elected to the Legislature, as a Republican, while the county went Democratic on the Presidential ticket. In January following he was elected Speaker, probably the youngest man who had ever presided over an Illinois Legislature. After the session of 1861, he was a candidate for the State Constitutional Convention called for that year, but was defeated, and thus escaped the disgrace of being connected with that abortive party scheme to revolutionize the State Government. In 1862 he was a candidate for the State Senate, but was defeated. The same year, however, he was appointed by President Lincoln on a Government Commission, in company with Gov. Boutwell of Massachusetts and Cnarles A. Dana, since of the New York *Sun*, to investigate the affairs of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments at Cairo. He devoted several months to this duty.

In 1864 he entered upon a larger political field, being nominated as the Republican candidate for Congress from the Eighth (Springfield) District, in opposition to the incumbent, John T. Stuart, who had been elected in 1862 by about 1,500 majority over Leonard Swett, then of Bloomington, now of Chicago. The result was the election of Mr. Cullom in November following by a majority of 1,785. In 1866 he was re-elected to Congress, over Dr. E. S. Fowler, by the magnificent majority of 4,103! In 1868 he was again a candidate, defeating the Hon. B. S. Edwards, another of his old preceptors, by 2,884 votes.

During his first term in Congress he served on the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Expenditures in the Treasury Department; in his second term, on the Committees on Foreign Affairs and on Territories; and in his third term he succeeded Mr. Ashley, of Ohio, to the Chairmanship of the latter. He introduced a bill in the House, to aid in the execution of law in Utah, which caused more consternation among the Mormons than any measure had previously, but which, though it passed the House, failed to pass the Senate.

The Republican Convention which met May 25, 1876, nominated Mr. Cullom for Governor, while the other contestant was Gov. Beveridge. For Lieutenant-Governor they nominated Andrew Shuman, editor of the Chicago *Journal*. For the same offices the Democrats, combining with the Anti-Monopolists, placed in nomination Lewis Steward, a wealthy farmer and manufacturer, and A. A. Glenn. The result of the election was rather close, Mr. Cullom obtaining only 6,800 majority. He was inaugurated Jan. 8, 1877.

Great depression prevailed in financial circles at this time, as a consequence of the heavy failures of 1873 and afterward, the effect of which had seemed to gather force from that time to the end of Gov. Cullom's first administration. This unspeculative period was not calculated to call forth any new issues, but the Governor's energies were at one time put to task to quell a spirit of insubordination that had been begun in Pittsburg, Pa., among the laboring classes, and transferred to Illinois at Chicago, East St. Louis and Braidwood, at which places laboring men for a short time refused to work or allow others to work. These disturbances were soon quelled and the wheels of industry again set in motion.

In May, 1880, Gov. Cullom was re-nominated by the Republicans, against Lyman Trumbull, by the Democrats; and although the former party was somewhat handicapped in the campaign by a zealous faction opposed to Grant for President and to Grant men for office generally, Mr. Cullom was re-elected by about 314,565, to 277,532 for the Democratic State ticket. The Greenback vote at the same time was about 27,000. Both Houses of the Legislature again became Republican, and no representative of the Greenback or Socialist parties were elected. Gov. Cullom was inaugurated Jan. 10, 1881. In his message he announced that the last dollar of the State debt had been provided for.

March 4, 1883, the term of David Davis as United States Senator from Illinois expired, and Gov. Cullom was chosen to succeed him. This promoted Lieutenant-Governor John M. Hamilton to the Governorship. Senator Cullom's term in the United States Senate will expire March 4, 1889.

As a practitioner of law Mr. C. has been a member of the firm of Cullom, Scholes & Mather, at Springfield; and he has also been President of the State National Bank.

He has been married twice,—the first time Dec. 12, 1855, to Miss Hannah Fisher, by whom he had two daughters; and the second time May 5, 1863, to Julia Fisher. Mrs. C is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which religious body Mr. C. is also in sympathy.

John M. Hamilton

John M. Hamilton.

JOHN MARSHALL HAMILTON, Governor 1883–5, was born May 28, 1847, in a log house upon a farm about two miles from Richwood, Union County, Ohio. His father was Samuel Hamilton, the eldest son of Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who, together with his brother, the Rev. Samuel Hamilton, was among the early pioneer Methodist preachers in Ohio. The mother of the subject of this sketch was, before her marriage, Mrs. Nancy McMorris, who was born and raised in Fauquier or Loudoun County, Va., and related to the two large families of Youngs and Marshalls, well known in that commonwealth; and from the latter family name was derived the middle name of Gov. Hamilton.

In March, 1854, Mr. Hamilton's father sold out his little pioneer forest home in Union County, O., and, loading his few household effects and family (of six children) into two emigrant covered wagons, moved to Roberts Township, Marshall Co., Ill., being 21 days on the route. Swamps, unbridged streams and innumerable hardships and privations met them on their way. Their new home had been previously selected by the father. Here, after many long years of toil, they succeeded in paying for the land and making a comfortable home. John was, of course, brought up to hard manual labor, with no schooling except three or four months in the year at a common country school. However, he evinced a capacity and taste for a high order of self-education, by studying or reading what books he could borrow, as the family had but very few in the house. Much of his study he prosecuted by the light of a log fire in the old-fashioned chimney place. The financial panic of 1857 caused the family to come near losing their home, to pay debts; but the father and two sons, William and John, "buckled to" and persevered in hard labor and economy until they redeemed their place from the mortgage.

When the tremendous excitement of the political campaign of 1860 reached the neighborhood of Roberts Township, young Hamilton, who had been brought up in the doctrine of anti-slavery, took a zealous part in favor of Lincoln's election. Making special efforts to procure a little money to buy a uniform, he joined a company of Lincoln Wide-Awakes at Magnolia, a village not far away. Directly after the ensuing election it became evident that trouble would ensue with the South, and this Wide-Awake company, like many others throughout the country, kept up its organization and transformed itself into a military company. During the ensuing summer they met often for drill and became proficient; but when they offered themselves for the war, young Hamilton was rejected on account of his youth, he being then but 14 years of age. During the winter of 1863–4 he attended an academy at Henry, Marshall County,

and in the following May he again enlisted, for the fourth time, when he was placed in the 141st Ill. Vol. Inf., a regiment then being raised at Elgin, Ill., for the 100-day service. He took with him 13 other lads from his neighborhood, for enlistment in the service. This regiment operated in Southwestern Kentucky, for about five months, under Gen. Paine.

The following winter, 1864–5, Mr. Hamilton taught school, and during the two college years 1865–7, he went through three years of the curriculum of the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. The third year he graduated, the fourth in a class of 46, in the classical department. In due time he received the degree of M. A. For a few months he was the Principal of Marshall "College" at Henry, an academy under the auspices of the M. E. Church. By this time he had commenced the study of law, and after earning some money as a temporary Professor of Latin at the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, he entered the law office of Weldon, Tipton & Benjamin, of that city. Each member of this firm has since been distinguished as a Judge. Admitted to the Bar in May, 1870, Mr. Hamilton was given an interest in the same firm, Tipton having been elected Judge. In October following he formed a partnership with J. H. Rowell, at that time Prosecuting Attorney. Their business was then small, but they increased it to very large proportions, practicing in all grades of courts, including even the U. S. Supreme Court, and this partnership continued unbroken until Feb. 6, 1883, when Mr. Hamilton was sworn in as Executive of Illinois. On the 4th of March following Mr. Rowell took his seat in Congress.

In July, 1871, Mr. Hamilton married Miss Helen M. Williams, the daughter of Prof. Wm. G. Williams, Professor of Greek in the Ohio Wesleyan University. Mr. and Mrs. H. have two daughters and one son.

In 1876 Mr. Hamilton was nominated by the Republicans for the State Senate, over other and older competitors. He took an active part "on the stump" in the campaign, for the success of his party, and was elected by a majority of 1,640 over his Democratic-Greenback opponent. In the Senate he served on the Committees on Judiciary, Revenue, State Institutions, Appropriations, Education, and on Miscellany; and during the contest for the election of a U. S. Senator, the Republicans endeavoring to re-elect John A. Logan, he voted for the war chief on every ballot, even alone when all the other Republicans had gone over to the Hon. E. B. Lawrence and the Democrats and Independents elected Judge David Davis. At this session, also, was passed the first Board of Health and Medical Practice act, of which Mr. Hamilton was a champion, against so much opposition that the bill was several times "laid on the table." Also, this session authorized the location and establishment of a southern penitentiary, which was fixed at Chester. In the session of 1879 Mr. Hamilton was elected President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and was a zealous supporter of John A. Logan for the U. S. Senate, who was this time elected without any trouble.

In May, 1880, Mr. Hamilton was nominated on the Republican ticket for Lieutenant Governor, his principal competitors before the Convention being Hon. Wm. A. James, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives, Judge Robert Bell, of Wabash County, Hon. T. T. Fountain, of Perry County, and Hon. M. M. Saddler, of Marion County. He engaged actively in the campaign, and his ticket was elected by a majority of 41,200. As Lieutenant Governor, he presided almost continuously over the Senate in the 32d General Assembly and during the early days of the 33d, until he succeeded to the Governorship. When the Legislature of 1883 elected Gov. Cullom to the United States Senate, Lieut. Gov. Hamilton succeeded him, under the Constitution, taking the oath of office Feb. 6, 1883. He bravely met all the annoyances and embarrassments incidental upon taking up another's administration. The principal events with which Gov. Hamilton was connected as the Chief Executive of the State were, the mine disaster at Braidwood, the riots in St. Clair and Madison Counties in May, 1883, the appropriations for the State militia, the adoption of the Harper high-license liquor law, the veto of a dangerous railroad bill, etc.

The Governor was a Delegate at large to the National Republican Convention at Chicago in June, 1884, where his first choice for President was John A. Logan, and second choice Chester A. Arthur; but he afterward zealously worked for the election of Mr. Blaine, true to his party.

Mr. Hamilton's term as Governor expired Jan. 30, 1885, when the great favorite "Dick" Oglesby was inaugurated.

J. W. Zifer

Joseph W. Fifer.

JOSEPH WILSON FIFER. This distinguished gentleman was elected Governor of Illinois November 6, 1888. He was popularly known during the campaign as "Private Joe." He had served with great devotion to his country during the Rebellion, in the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry. A native of Virginia, he was born in 1840. His parents, John and Mary (Daniels) Fifer, were American born, though of German descent. His father was a brick and stone mason, and an old Henry Clay Whig in politics. John and Mary Fifer had nine children, of whom Joseph was the sixth, and naturally with so large a family it was all the father could do to keep the wolf from the door; to say nothing of giving his children anything like good educational advantages.

Young Joseph attended school some in Virginia, but it was not a good school, and when his father removed to the West, in 1857, Joseph had not advanced much further than the "First Reader." Our subject was sixteen then and suffered a great misfortune in the loss of his mother. After the death of Mrs. Fifer, which occurred in Missouri, the family returned to Virginia, but remained only a short time, as during the same year Mr. Fifer came to Illinois. He settled in McLean County and started a brickyard. Here Joseph and his brothers were put to work. The elder Fifer soon bought a farm near Bloomington and began life as an agriculturalist. Here Joe worked and attended the neighboring school. He alternated farm-work, brick-laying, and going to the district school for the succeeding few years. It was all work and no play for Joe, yet it by no means made a dull boy of him. All the time he was thinking of the great world outside, of which he had caught a glimpse when coming from Virginia, yet he did not know just how he was going to get out into it. He could not feel that the woods around the new farm and the log cabin, in which the family lived, were to hold him.

The opportunity to get out into the world was soon offered to young Joe. He traveled a dozen miles barefoot, in company with his brother George, and enlisted in Company C, 33d Illinois Infantry; he being then twenty years old. In a few days

the regiment was sent to Camp Butler, and then over into Missouri, and saw some vigorous service there. After a second time helping to chase Price out of Missouri, the 33d Regiment went down to Milliken's Bend, and for several weeks "Private Joe" worked on Grant's famous ditch. The regiment then joined the forces operating against Port Gibson and Vicksburg. Joe was on guard duty in the front ditches when the flag of surrender was run up on the 4th of July, and stuck the bayonet of his gun into the embankment and went into the city with the vanguard of Union soldiers.

The next day, July 5, the 33d joined the force after Johnston, who had been threatening Grant's rear; and finally an assault was made on him at Jackson, Miss. In this charge "Private Joe" fell, terribly wounded. He was loading his gun when a minie-ball struck him and passed entirely through his body. He was regarded as mortally wounded. His brother, George, who had been made a Lieutenant, proved to be the means of saving his life. The Surgeon told him unless he had ice his brother Joe could not live. It was fifty miles to the nearest point where ice could be obtained, and the roads were rough. A comrade, a McLean county man, who had been wounded, offered to make the trip. An ambulance was secured and the brother soldier started on the journey. He returned with the ice, but the trip, owing to the roughness of the roads, was very hard on him. After a few months' careful nursing Mr. Fifer was able to come home. The 33d came home on a furlough, and when the boys were ready to return to the tented field, young Fifer was ready to go with them; for he was determined to finish his term of three years. He was mustered out in October, 1864, having been in the service three years and two months.

"Private Joe" came out of the army a tall, tanned, and awkward young man of twenty-four. About all he possessed was ambition to be somebody—and pluck. Though at an age when most men have finished their college course, the young soldier saw that if he was to be anybody he must have an education. Yet he had no means to enable him to enter school as most young men do. He was determined to have an education, however, and that to him meant success. For the following four years he struggled with his books. He entered Wesleyan University Jan. 1, 1865. He was not a brilliant student, being neither at the head nor the foot of his class. He was in great earnest, however, studied hard and came forth with a well-stored and disciplined mind.

Immediately after being graduated he entered an office at Bloomington as a law student. He had already read law some, and as he continued to work hard, with the spur of poverty and promptings of ambition ever with him, he was ready to hang out his professional shingle in 1869. Being trustworthy he soon gathered about him some influential friends. In 1871 he was elected Corporation Counsel of Bloomington. In 1872 he was elected State's Attorney of McLean County. This office he held for eight years, when he took his seat in the State Senate. Here he served for four years. His ability to perform abundance of hard work made him a most valued member of the Legislature.

Mr. Fifer was married in 1870 to Gertie, daughter of William J. Lewis, of Bloomington. Mr. Fifer is six feet in height and is spare, weighing only 150 pounds. He has a swarthy complexion, keen black eyes, quick movement, and possesses a frank and sympathetic nature, and naturally makes friends wherever he goes. During the late Gubernatorial campaign his visits throughout the State proved a great power in his behalf. His happy faculty of winning the confidence and good wishes of those with whom he comes in personal contact is a source of great popularity, especially during a political battle. As a speaker he is fluent, his language is good, voice clear and agreeable, and manner forcible. His manifest earnestness in what he says as well as his tact as a public speaker, and his eloquent and forceful language, makes him a most valuable campaign orator and a powerful pleader at the bar. At the Republican State Convention, held in May, 1888, Mr. Fifer was chosen as its candidate for Governor. He proved a popular nominee, and the name of "Private Joe" became familiar to everyone throughout the State. He waged a vigorous campaign, was elected by a good majority, and in due time assumed the duties of the Chief Executive of Illinois.

WOODFORD COUNTY,

ILLINOIS.

INTRODUCTORY.

THE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to perserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The exhumations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.

E. A. Wilcox

BIOGRAPHICAL.

HON. E. A. WILCOX, M. D., whose portrait is presented on the opposite page, is the oldest physician in Minonk in point of settlement, and the second oldest in Woodford County, Dr. James S. Whitmire taking precedence of him, and occupying the post of honor in that respect. He is one of the leading members of his profession in Northern Illinois, and since coming here has enjoyed an extensive practice, second to that of no other physician in this part of the State. In the prosecution of his profession he has shown himself to be a business man of no ordinary ability, and has accumulated a large amount of property, thus placing himself among the men of wealth and influence in his community. His time has not altogether been devoted to his calling, for a man of his executive capacity is demanded in public life, and he has served with distinction in various county and city offices, and has been a member of the State Assembly.

The Doctor is a native of Pennsylvania, born in the town of Wattsburgh, Erie County, Sept. 8, 1830, a son of Levi and Nancy (Rogers) Wilcox, natives respectively of Haddam, Conn., and Columbiana County, Ohio. The Wilcoxes are of Scotch ancestry, and for many generations have been represented in New England, where they settled in early Colonial times. His grandfather, Levi Wilcox, was a farmer in Connecticut, and the father of our subject was reared on the old homestead, amid the pleasant scenes of his New England birthplace. He was a studious, thoughtful lad, and educated himself for the medical profession, for which his talents seemed peculiarly adapted. He moved to Ohio, married there, and subsequently practiced his profession in Tuscarawas County, that State, being one of its pioneer physicians. From New Philadelphia, the county seat of that county, he came to Illinois about 1837, and located in Lacon, Marshall County, as one of the first physicians of that town, and was there actively engaged in his profession the remainder of his life. He became very prominent, not only as a doctor, but as a public official, and his death, of cholera, June 4, 1851, at the age of fifty-one years, was a severe blow to the county, which then lost one of its most influential and valuable citizens. He was a gentleman of much culture, and of a calm, philosophical temperament, and got all the enjoyment out of life possible, living well, and having the benefit of his money as he went along. He had good financial ability, and accumulated an estate of over $10,000. He was a Whig in politics, a leading member of his party, and he served one term as County Treasurer of Marshall County. He was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The mother of our subject was a daughter of Alexander

Rogers, and had seven brothers: Dr. Thomas P. Rogers, of Bloomington, Ills.; John Rogers, a farmer, of Marshall County; Samuel Rogers, a retired farmer of Woodford County, now living in Minonk; Dr. R. B. Rogers, of Lacon; Dr. David Rogers, of Missouri; Dr. Alexander Rogers, of Ohio; and George Rogers, of Oregon. She survived her husband many years, her death finally occurring in March, 1888, at the home of our subject, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Six children were born of her marriage: Edward A., our subject; Sophronia, who married Ezra Warren, and died in Tiskilwa, Ill.; Alfred R., an officer in the late war, who died in the service; Cynthia, who married James D. Verna, and died in Lacon, Ill.; Elizabeth, the wife of Henry C. Dent, of Gainsville, Tex.; Levi S., a resident of Champaign, and Collector of Internal Revenue for the Second District of Illinois. Alfred R. was a member of Company H, 11th Illinois Infantry, First Lieutenant of his company. He was wounded at Ft. Donelson, and died at Minonk one month later, and thus a gallant officer was lost to the cause.

Our subject was but eight years old when the family came to Illinois, and he laid the basis of a sound education at Mt. Morris. He began the study of medicine under the instruction of his father and of his uncle, Dr. R. B. Rogers, and in 1857 was graduated with honors from Rush Medical College, with a good theoretical knowledge of medicine in its various branches. He opened an office at Lacon, but after practicing there a year came to Minonk, and has since carried on his profession here, and has raised himself to the first rank among the physicians of Woodford County, as a practitioner of more than ordinary skill and intelligence, who has met with great success in the treatment of difficult cases. He has also been successful from a financial standpoint, his ability in regard to money matters being as conspicuous as it is in the exercise of his profession. He is the owner of 800 acres of land in Woodford and adjoining counties, and over 1,400 acres of land in other States, besides having other valuable property in Minonk.

The Doctor has been twice married. He first led to the altar, June 23, 1857, Miss Carrie Mathis, a daughter of Caleb Mathis, of Putnam County, Ill. She was a native of Ohio, having been born at Urbana, Champaign County, Dec. 12, 1832, and died in Minonk, March 11, 1877, leaving her husband and children to mourn the loss of one, who in every respect filled the perfect measure of wife, mother, friend. The following is recorded of the seven children born to our subject of that marriage: Elsie S. is the wife of William Haggard, a business manager of LaPorte, Ind.; Carrie E. is the wife of H. C. Forney, of Minonk; Alfred R. is a dentist in Minonk; Fred W., a graduate of Rush Medical College, is a physician in Minonk; Frank T. is a student at Rush Medical College; Hattie and Mattie, twins, are pupils at the Wesleyan University, in Bloomington.

The Doctor's marriage to his present wife, formerly Miss Victoria Boyle, took place at the home of her father in Ox Bow, Putnam Co., Ill., July 17, 1878. She was born in Putnam County, Ill., April 29, 1853, and is a daughter of David Boyle, a retired farmer living in Wichita, Kan. Five children have been born of this union—Edna C., Branard A., Lottie and Logan, twins. Josie is deceased.

Our subject has not only distinguished himself in the medical world, but in public life, where his name is widely known and honored as that of a wise, able and progressive statesman, who has worked zealously for the highest interests of the State, county and township, ungoverned by personal aims or party considerations. He represented his district, which then included Woodford, Marshall and Putnam counties, in the State Senate three sessions, a period of four years, from 1872 to 1876. This fact illustrates his genuine popularity, the hold that he has upon the hearts of the people, and his great influence when it is considered that these counties are largely Democratic, yet he, a sound Republican, was elected State Senator by an unusually large majority, and that no Republican has represented the district from that date. As Mayor of Minonk for three terms he has greatly advanced its interests in every direction, and has done much to bring about its present prosperity and high standing. He is a leader in the Republican party in this section of the country, a prominent member of the State Central Committee, having served

three terms, and once as a member at large. He is a member of the State Medical Association of the Northwest, and of the Woodford County medical societies.

GREEN LEE PATTERSON, a prominent and influential farmer, residing on section 29, Palestine Township, was born in Indiana, Sept. 26, 1827, and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock. His paternal grandfather, James Patterson, was probably a native of Pennsylvania or Virginia. When the Colonies took up arms against the mother country, resolved to shake off the British yoke of tyranny, like a loyal citizen he enlisted in their ranks, and served during the entire war as captain. He participated in many of the most important engagements of that struggle, and was ever found at his post of duty, bravely fighting for American independence. By occupation he was a farmer and followed that pursuit the greater part of his life. He married a Virginia lady, and they settled near Harper's Ferry, since made memorable by the John Brown raid. They continued to make their home in that community until called from the busy scenes of this earth to the rest beyond the grave. Unto that worthy couple were born a large family of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, and the entire number were married, reared families, and attained the ages of three-score years and ten, though none are now living.

Joshua Patterson, father of our subject, was one of the younger members of the family, and in his native State, Virginia, was reared to manhood. Thence he removed to Kentucky in company with an older brother and his only sister, the party settling near Georgetown, Scott County, where he was joined in wedlock with his cousin, Miss Mary E. Bell, who was born in Maryland, and was a daughter of Robert Bell, who was probably also born in the same State. Mrs. Patterson was only a little child when the death of her mother occurred, and she was reared by an older sister, who went with other members of the family to Kentucky, where her marriage with Joshua Patterson was celebrated. The young couple began their domestic life in Scott County, where the husband followed blacksmithing, which trade he had learned in his native State. Five children were there born unto them, as follows: Milton, Sanford, Dudley, Abby A. and Elizabeth. In 1825, the family left Kentucky and removed to Indiana, settling in an almost unbroken wilderness, not far from Decatur, where Mr. Patterson purchased eighty acres of land, and began farming. A few years later, he removed to Rush County, locating in Richland Township, where he bought 160 acres of timber land, and in the midst of the forest made a home. He was a man of energy, and in an incredibly short period of time had cleared away the trees, plowed his land and planted crops. He continued to reside upon that farm until his death, which occurred in December, 1851, at the ripe old age of seventy-five years. He possessed a vigorous constitution and hopeful disposition which especially fitted him for the trials and hardships of pioneer life, and made his efforts successful, when many another of a more despondent temperament would have failed. His excellent wife survived him, dying at the age of eighty-eight years. After settling in Indiana, they became members of the Christian Church, and died in that faith.

Not long after the removal of the family from Kentucky, the birth of our subject occurred. He was reared in his native county, remaining under the parental roof until twenty-two years of age, when he left home and started westward. That was in 1849. He spent the following winter in Iowa, and in 1850, attracted by the discovery of gold in California, joined a party of emigrants, and with ox teams began the journey across the plains to the Pacific Slope. After four and a half months the company reached their destination, arriving in Hangtown, Cal. Mr. Patterson remained in the West for three and a half years, during which time he engaged in mining and teaming. He was reasonably successful, and after having accumulated some capital, in 1853, started for home. He made the return trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York City, whence he came across the Country to Illinois. Arriving in Woodford County, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, and

is now the owner of one of the best farms in the township, comprising 160 acres, highly improved and cultivated. Everything about the place indicates thrift and industry, while neatness and regularity characterize the entire surroundings.

In 1856, Mr. Patterson went to Adair County, Mo., where he was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary J. Brashears, and then returned with his young bride to the home which he had prepared. Mrs. Patterson was born in Rolls County, Mo., and is a daughter of William and Rosanna (Wood) Brashears, who were natives of South Carolina. They were also reared and married in that State, but soon removed to Monroe County, where they made their home until becoming residents of Adair County, where Mr. Brashears died in 1861, when fifty years of age. His wife is still living in Brashear, Mo., and has nearly attained the advanced age of eighty years.

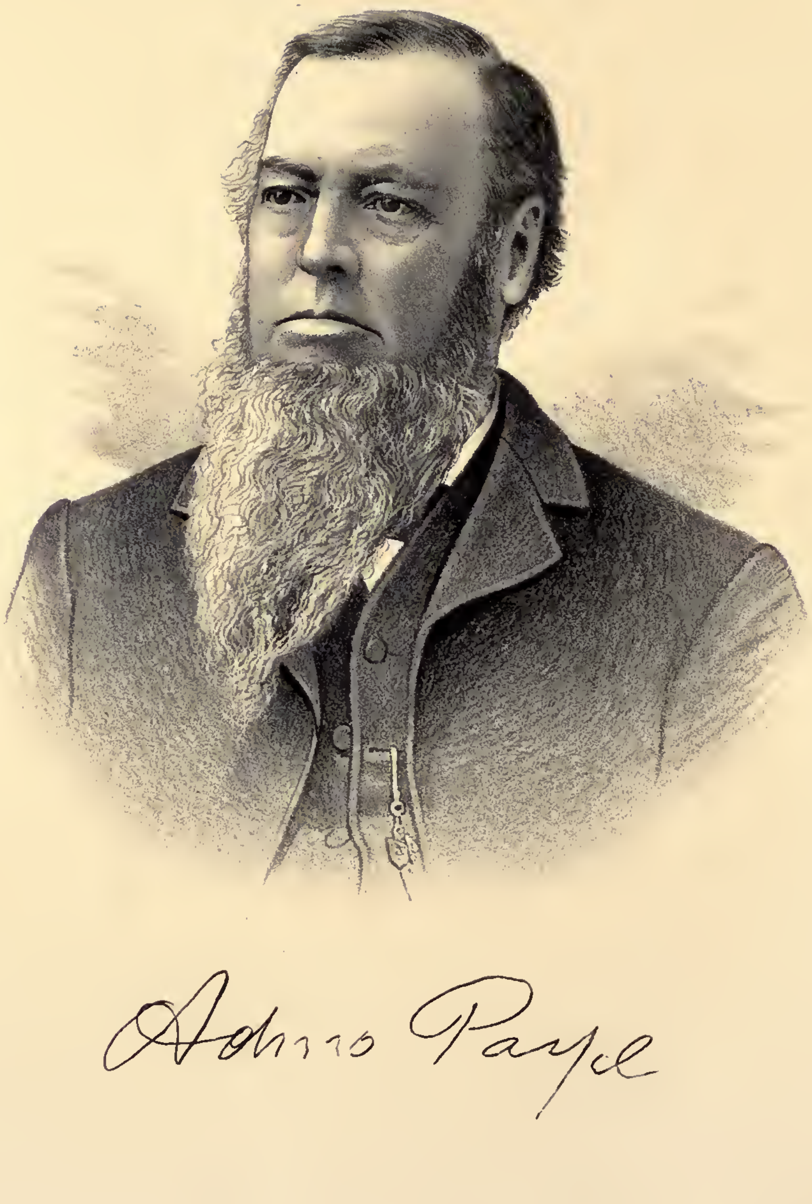
Mr. and Mrs. Patterson have spent their entire married life in Woodford County, and are ranked among its best citizens. They hold a high position in the social world, and are widely and favorably known throughout the community. They hold membership in the Christian Church of Palestine Township, and are active workers in the interests of that society. In politics Mr. Patterson is a Republican, and as every true American citizen should do, feels a deep interest in political affairs. He has, however, never been an office seeker in the popular sense of the word, preferring rather to devote his time and attention to his business interests.

MRS. MARTHA PEARD, widow of Richard Peard, left her old English home, where she had been born and bred, and the friends of her youth, and in the bloom of early womanhood crossed the ocean with her young husband to aid him in building up a new home on the western prairies of America, and they thus became pioneers of Woodford County. In the busy years that followed their settlement in the sparsely inhabited township of Metamora, where deer, wolves and other wild animals used to roam on the site of a now populous city, Mr. Peard transformed the wild land that he had purchased into a productive farm. But it was left to our subject to finish the work that he had so well begun. Left a widow while yet young, with six little children to care for, she nobly assumed the burden that thus devolved upon her, and successfully carried on the farm, completing its improvement and making it with its well tilled lands, beautiful surroundings, its pretty lawns adorned with trees, shrubs and flowers, and with its neat and tasty buildings, one of the most desirable places in the township. It gives us great pleasure to introduce to our readers one who should surely have an honorable place among our pioneers.

Mrs. Peard was born in Tavistock, England, Jan. 28, 1820, a daughter of one William Down, a dairy farmer, who spent his entire life in Devonshire. Her mother, whose maiden name was Mary Brooks, also spent her whole life in her native England. There were four children born to the worthy parents of our subject, one son and three daughters. Mrs. Peard's brother lost his life in a mine disaster at the age of twenty-four. Her sister Charlotte married Richard Prout, and lives in Tavistock, England. Her sister Harriet married Henry Phear, and lives in Cornwall, England. Mrs. Peard resided with her parents till her marriage with Richard Peard, when she was nineteen years old.

Richard Peard was born at Bratten Clovelly, Devonshire, England, July 10, 1825, a son of Richard and Alice (Rundel) Peard, also natives of Devonshire. He was left an orphan at seven years of age, and was reared by an uncle on a farm. His brother William came to America, and resided for a time at Carlinville, Ill.; later he removed to Burr Oak, Winneshiek County, Iowa, where he became the possessor of a large farm, and there he spent his last years, and his family are living there now. His sisters Elizabeth and Grace came to this country, and the former married Thomas Richards, a prominent farmer of Linn Township, where she spent her last years; her daughters are residents of the county. Grace married William Hunter, and died at Carlinville, Ill.

A short time after marriage Mr. Peard deter-



mined to try life in America and see what it held for him and his, and in the month of May, 1850, he and his young wife left the land of their birth, setting sail from Plymouth, and four weeks and four days later they landed in the quaint city of Quebec, whence they came directly to Illinois. They rented a home in Metamora Township till Mr. Peard could look around the country and secure a suitable location. In the same year he bought eighty acres of land on section 11, Metamora Township, on which his family now resides. There were ten acres improved, and a small frame house stood on the place, and in that lonely habitation the young couple set up their household gods. They had but few neighbors, and none very near, as the country roundabout was thinly settled, and was still in the hands of the pioneers. There were no railways for some years after their location here, and Peoria and Spring Bay were the nearest market towns. Mr. Peard was quite prosperous in his undertakings, and increased the area of his farm to 135 acres, and was making many valuable improvements when his busy career was cut short by his untimely death, Nov. 13, 1866. He was a man of excellent habits and sound repute, and during his residence in Metamora Township, faithfully performed his part in developing and promoting the growth of the township. He was a good manager, wise, thrifty, and prudent in money matters, and directed his affairs so as to obtain the best financial results. Such a man is a most desirable citizen in any community, and his removal by death is a misfortune. The death of the kind husband and father was a terrible blow to his family. His wife was thus left without his counsel and guidance, with five small children, the eldest but twelve years old, and an unborn babe, who came into this world three months after the sad death of the father. The names of the children are: William H., Arminel E., John T., Harriet, Fred R., Josie M. William married Anna M. McOmber, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Isaac and Sarah McOmber. She died March 31, 1886, leaving one son, named Ralph R. Arminel E. married Rev. J. C. H. Read, a Baptist minister of Moline, and they have three children, Maud, Earl and Ray. John married Sadie Johnson, a native of New Jersey, and a daughter of George and Mattie Johnson The three youngest children are at home with their mother.

After her husband's death Mrs. Peard did not sit down and vainly lament her loss, but bravely took up the work that had fallen from his hands, took charge of the farm, carrying it on so well as to derive from its cultivation a good yearly income. She carefully trained her children in the path of duty, bringing them up to lead useful and honorable lives, and giving them excellent educations. She is a woman of more than ordinary energy and capacity, a type of true womanhood, large hearted, open handed, full of charity for others, and has a noble life-record of duty performed and work well done. She is an example of the best class of the grand pioneer women of Woodford County, to whom it is so greatly indebted for its high social, moral and material standing. A firm Christian, she is a devoted member of the Baptist Church, and has had the happiness to see all her children unite with that church.

JOSEPH W. MEEK, Superintendent of the Woodford County Almshouse, located at Metamora, is a young man whose ability and force of character amply fit him for the responsible position that he fills so well. He is a native-born citizen of the county, Cruger Township the place of his birth, and Feb. 21, 1850, the date thereof. A biographical review of his parents, Joseph and Barbara Meek, is given on another page in this volume. The subject was reared in his native town, and there received the basis of his education in the district schools, afterward pursuing one term of study in the Eureka College. As soon as he was large enough he assisted in the farm work, and gained a good, practical knowledge of agriculture in all its branches. He continued an inmate of the parental household until 1886, and in the meantime his father divided the farm with him. In 1887 Mr. Meek rented his farm, having been appointed to the lucrative position of Super-

intendent of the County Almshouse, and he has ever since had charge of it. In his management of the affairs thus entrusted to him he has displayed great efficiency, carefully looking after the comfort of the inmates and keeping them in good order and giving close personal attention to all duties devolving upon him.

In the trials and responsibilities of his position Mr. Meek is encouraged and assisted by a devoted wife, to whom he was united in marriage Dec. 18, 1871. Their union has been blessed to them by the birth of four sons—Joseph Edward, Clarence B. Perry and Frank. Mrs. Meek's maiden name was Ella Boyd, and she is, like her husband, a native of Woodford County, born in Olio Township. She is a daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth (Graves) Boyd, natives of Kentucky, the father born in Christian County. He was there reared, married, and in 1847 came to Olio Township, of which he was quite an early settler. He bought a farm there, on which he resided until 1854, when he returned to Kentucky, and now lives in Carlisle County, that State. His wife died in Olio Township when Mrs. Meek was an infant.

Mr. Meek is a man of correct habits and sound principles, and is, indeed, a credit to the citizenship of his native county. He is endowed with a cool head, calm judgment, and good business tact that render him an invaluable official in the difficult position that he fills so skillfully. He and his wife are prominent members of the Christian Church, and faithfully perform their share in support of the Gospel.

FRANK HUNZINGER, a prominent, well-to do farmer of Roanoke Township, has been a resident of Woodford County for thirty years, coming here when a boy of sixteen, and during that time he has been an important factor in developing its great agricultural interests, and he has become the proprietor of 320 acres of rich farming land, well stocked with cattle and horses of high grades, and provided with a neat and substantial set of frame buildings, pleasantly located on the northeast quarter of section 35, two and one-half miles south of the village of Roanoke.

Our subject was born on the 3d of April, 1842, in Alsace, when it was a Province of France. His father, Jacob Hunzinger, was a native of the same place, while his father, George Hunzinger, is supposed to have been a native of Switzerland, who emigrated from there to Alsace, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, residing there until his death. The father of our subject was reared and married in his native land, and engaged in farming there until 1860, when he disposed of his property there and then followed his sons across the ocean to America. He located in Roanoke Township, buying a farm here, and was a resident of this place until his death. He and his wife were the parents of five children—Magdalena, Jacob, Elizabeth, Frank, and John, all of whom came to America.

Frank Hunzinger passed his boyhood in his native land, and in its excellent schools gleaned a sound education, attending school quite regularly until he was fourteen years old. He then assisted his father on his farm until he was sixteen years old. At that age the ambitious lad set out in the world by himself, anxious to try life in America, whither his brother Jacob had preceded him. He set sail from Havre, France, in November, and after a long and tedious voyage landed in New York City in the following January, and at once made his way to his brother in Woodford County, this State. At that time he was a poor boy, his sole capital being a sane mind in a sound body, but he had inherited industrious and persevering habits from his good parents, and these with other good traits were enough to insure his success in any walk in life. He at once sought and found work by the month on a farm, and was thus employed until his father came, when he remained at home with him the following two years to assist him in the management of his farm. He then began an independent life by farming on rented land. He was fairly successful in that venture, and was enabled to make a payment on eighty acres of land which he had purchased, said land now being included in his present farm. There were no buildings on it at that time, and he at once began to make the necessary

improvements. He has met with more than ordinary success in his efforts to secure a home, and now has a fine farm that is comparable with the best in this locality in point of cultivation, good buildings, etc. Our subject has been a hard worker in his day, and by sound discretion, keen judgment and far-sighted forethought, has acquired a valuable property and placed himself among the most substantial citizens of his township.

In his work Mr. Hunzinger has not been without the assistance of a faithful wife, to whom he owes much for his present prosperous circumstances. Her maiden name was Caroline Kuhl, and they were united in marriage in 1867. Mrs. Hunzinger was born in Woodford County, and is a daughter of Henry Kuhl, a well-known pioneer of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Hunzinger have six children, namely: John, Amelia, Joseph, Jacob, Lena and Etta. The family are prominent members of the Presbyterian Church, and are generous in its support.

Although our subject is of foreign birth this country has no more loyal citizen than he, the most important part of his life having been passed here, and he is thoroughly attached to American institutions and government. Politically, he is an intelligent supporter of the principles promulgated by the Democratic party. He is of the type of men called self-made, and we may add that he is well made. He is a keen observer, possesses ripe common-sense, prompt and systematic business habits, and in his dealings with others is always fair and square.

PETER KENNEL, one of the most extensive land owners of Woodford County, an honored resident of Roanoke Township, is distinguished as being one of the oldest native-born citizens of the county, his birth having occurred here in what is now Worth Township, prior to the organization of the county. His father John Kennel, an Alsacian by birth, was a prominent and well-known pioneer of this section of Illinois in the early days of its settlement, and while engaged in the accumulation of a handsome property he was an important factor in the development of the wonderful agricultural resources of this region, and thus helped promote the material prosperity of the county. Our subject in his turn has done much in that direction, and has contributed liberally of his wealth to advance the highest interest of his native county.

The father of our subject was born near Strasburg, in the German province of Alsace, which France ceded to Germany after the close of the Franco-Prussian war. He received a very good education in the public schools, and continued to reside in his native land till he had attained manhood. He then came to the United States, ambitious to see something of life and to improve his fortunes. He first located in Ohio, and though a stranger in a strange land, his only capital good health, a fine physique, and indomitable energy, he soon found work, commencing his life on American soil by working out as a farm hand, receiving eight dollars a month and his board. After working about for a time he concluded to come further west, where he could secure cheap lands and have a better chance to build up a home, and in 1830 he made his appearance in Illinois, and located in what is now Worth Township, Woodford County. He made a claim to a tract of timbered land, the land roundabout here then being owned by the Government, and the most of it in its native condition. He built a comfortable log house, splitting the logs and hewing them down for a floor, riving out boards about four feet long to cover the roof, and, having no nails, putting on heavy poles fastened with wooden pins to keep the roof in place. The rude chimney had a stone foundation, and was made of earth and sticks. Mr. Kennel was a man of more than ordinary industry, capacity and enterprise, possessing good judgment, and by years of hard labor he not only improved a valuable farm, but bought more land, and accumulated a handsome fortune. He lived on his farm for many years till 1871, when he came to live with our subject and made his home with him till his death Dec. 18, 1888. His wife had died on the old homestead in Worth Township many years before.

The subject of this sketch was born in the humble log cabin that his father erected when he first settled on his homestead in Worth Township, July

3, 1833 being the date of his birth. He was reared amid the pioneer scenes that obtained in this part of the country then, and has a distinct recollection of the wild aspect of the country in those days before civilization had made much progress in this region. In his youthful days one of his chief pleasures used to be to hunt the deer, wild turkeys and other game that roamed at will over the broad prairies, or sought shelter in the woody coverts along the streams. He remained at home with his parents till the time of his marriage, when he moved on to a farm belonging to his father in Worth Township two miles from the old homestead, and there the first three years of his wedded life were spent. In about 1859 he settled on the place he now owns and occupies on section 5, Roanoke Township. He inherited industrious habits, keen foresight and other notable traits of character from his parents and has met with more than ordinary success in life. He is the proprietor of 1490 acres of land in Roanoke and Linn townships, besides tracts of land in Kansas and Nebraska, inheriting considerable real estate from his father. Our subject has not gained his wealth by being penurious, as he is very liberal, devoting much money to charitable objects, and giving material aid to every enterprise for the benefit of his township or county, while his children have had every advantage afforded by a good education in the public schools.

Mr. Kennel was married April 8, 1856 to Miss Annie Schertz, and to them six children were born, five of whom are now living—Mary, John, Peter, Katie, Joseph. Mary is the wife of Christian Eigstine, of Linn Township, and is the mother of six children—Susie Anna, Mary, Katie, Lizzie, Johnie, Peter. John married Sarah Bachman, and the other children are living with their parents. Mrs. Kennel was born in France, about 1837, but when she was an infant her parents, Peter and Magdalena Schertz, brought her to the United States. They settled in Worth Township, where her father bought a tract of timber land, and improved a good farm, on which he and his wife spent their remaining years.

Mr. Kennel is classed among our best citizens, and his course in life has reflected credit on his native county, as he has always been true to himself and to others in all the relations of life as son, husband, father, neighbor, friend. He and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church, and are worthy disciples of the faith. In politics, Mr. Kennel is a decided Republican.

DAVID MARSHALL OWEN, Sheriff of Woodford County, occupies an honorable position among its native-born citizens, and his career, both in public and private life, justifies the high opinion of his merit that the people hold among whom his entire life has been passed, and their confidence in his singular fitness for the responsible office which he so ably fills.

Our subject was born in Cazenovia Township, March 10, 1843, a son of James Owen, one of the earliest settlers of Woodford County, a pioneer of Cazenovia Township, of which he is still an honored resident. He was a Virginian by birth, born in Halifax County Jan. 1, 1801. His father, Walter Owen, was born in the same county, and his grandfather, David Owen, was likewise a native of Virginia, and was there reared and married. In the year 1815 he emigrated from the home of his birth to the State of Kentucky, and made his home in Barren County with his children till his death, in 1818. The grandfather of our subject was reared and married in Virginia, and removed from there to Kentucky about 1815, going there with his family with a team. After living in Barren County, that State, nearly three years, he came to Illinois and became an early pioneer of Wayne County. At that time the country was very wild, giving scarcely any signs of civilization, and deer, wolves, panthers and wild cats were plentiful. He entered a tract of land from the Government, the greater part of it being timber, and building a rude log house on the place for a dwelling, he commenced the hard task of clearing a farm. The nearest market was at Carmi, twenty miles distant, on the Little Wabash River, the approach to the town being over rough, and sometimes almost impassable roads, and the nearest

mill was also at that point. Mr. Owen improved the greater part of his land, and resided there many years. Finally, he and his wife removed to Marshall County, and there spent their last days with their son Nathan.

The maiden name of the grandmother of our subject was Elizabeth Martin, and she was born in Halifax County, Va., a daughter of David and Elizabeth Martin. Six of the children born to her and her husband grew to maturity—Nathan, Joseph, Elizabeth, James, Daniel, Celia A. The father of our subject was about sixteen years old when his parents removed to the State of Kentucky, and he resided with them till their removal to Illinois, and still continued with them during their residence in Wayne County. As related before, wild game was then very plentiful in Wayne County, and he soon became an expert hunter, and killed many a bear, deer, or other wild game, and was thus enabled to add many a delicious feast to the humble pioneer fare of the early settlers. He was a youth of intense religious feeling, and early united with the United Baptist Church, and while in Wayne County preached very acceptably for the members of that denomination. In 1835 he came to that part of Tazewell County now in Woodford County, and entered a tract of wild prairie land on section 19, Cazenovia Township, on which he has since dwelt for fifty-four years. He at once built the house in which he has since lived, building it of round logs, which he afterward hewed, and has since weather boarded and ceiled. For some years his wife used to cook all the meals by the fire in the open fireplace, and she spun and wove all the cloth used in the family. Mr. Owen is distinguished as being the oldest settler residing in Cazenovia Township, and one of the oldest in the county. He is now in his eighty-ninth year, and notwithstanding his advanced age, enjoys a fair degree of health, and retains his mind and memory to a remarkable degree. He has not only improved a good farm, but has been an instrument in aiding the development of the agricultural resources of the county. He came here several years before its organization, and has witnessed almost its entire growth from a wilderness to a good state of cultivation. There were no railways in the early days of the settlement of this part of the country, and means of communication with the outside world were meagre and slow. The wild prairies were scarcely inhabited, and nearly all the land was in the hands of the Government, and for sale at $1.25 per acre. The settlements in the county were confined to the timber and along the streams, as the first settlers did not realize the value of the rich, virgin prairies as farming lands.

Soon after coming to this county, Mr. Owen joined the Christian Church, and became one of its most influential members, and was a local preacher in the church for many years. To him, Parker Morse, Sr., and Thomas Jones belongs the honor of having organized the first school district in the State of Illinois, and drawing the first funds from the treasury for the first free school taught in the State. Mr. Owen was married, Dec. 24, 1824, to Miss Candace King, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of John and Susan King. She died April 12, 1869. Five of the children born to the parents of our subject are now living, viz: Thomas, John, David M., J. Madison and Mary J.

David Owen, of whom these lines are written, received his early education in the pioneer schools of his native county, and was further advanced by attendance at the college at Eureka, where he pursued an excellent course of study. At the early age of fifteen he commenced to teach school, and was thus engaged for eight winter terms and three summer terms, and when not employed in teaching, he gave his attention to farming. In 1866 he bought eighty acres of timber land near his father's farm, but never located on it, however, but continued to reside on the old homestead where he had been born and bred, and which was under his management. He devoted his spare time to clearing his land and improving a farm, which he afterward sold at a good profit. After his election to the important post of Sheriff of Woodford County, he left his old home and removed to Metamora with his family for greater convenience in the transaction of business.

January 26, 1870, Mr. Owen took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Susan King, and one child, Myrtle, has blessed their happy wedded

life. Mrs. Owen was born in Marshall County, Ill., and is a daughter of Enoch and Celia (Owen) King.

Our subject is well-educated and well-informed, possessing much natural force of character, physical and moral courage, and is fully equal to the weighty responsibilities devolving on him in his present position. While residing in his native township, he bore an honorable part in the management of its public affairs, serving with ability as Township Assessor and as School Director. He is a Democrat in his political sentiments, firmly believing the policy of that party the right one to be pursued in the government of the country. Religiously, both he and his amiable wife are estimable members of the Christian Church, true disciples of the faith.

JOHN KELLOGG, a native of Vermont, is a good specimen of the sons of New England who have actively aided in the development of Woodford County as a great agricultural center. He is spending his declining years in his pleasant home in Metamora, where he is still engaged in tilling the soil. His fine farm, lying partly in this township and the remainder in Cazenovia and Roanoke townships, shows in the abundant harvests it yields and in its neatly appointed buildings, every evidence of assiduous cultivation and careful improvement.

Mr. Kellogg was born in the town of Stowe, Lamoille Co., Vt., Nov. 20, 1816. His father, Warner Kellogg, was likewise a Vermonter by birth, a native of the town of Paulet. His father, Aaron Kellogg came from England to this country with two brothers when he was a young man, and settled in Vermont. Some years after his marriage he became a pioneer of Stowe, and there spent his last years. He bought a tract of heavily timbered land, and before his death had developed a part of it into a good farm. The father of our subject was five years old when his parents settled in Stowe, and he there grew to man's estate. He inherited his father's land, and was actively engaged in its improvement for many years. In 1853 he sold his property in Vermont, having decided to try life in the marvelous agricultural regions of the West, and coming to Illinois he arrived in Clinton, De Witt County, the 1st of September. He explored the country around there, but not being quite satisfied with it, later in the fall came to this county, and five or six weeks after his arrival in Metamora his life was brought to a sudden close, and thus a citizen was lost to this community who might have been of great use in its upbuilding. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Janet Gregg, a native of Vermont, born in Waterbury, of which her parents, natives of Connecticut, were pioneers, died in Stowe, Vt., in 1851. To her and her husband were born twelve children, eleven of whom lived to maturity.

John Kellogg, the subject of this biography, was bred amid the pretty hill scenes of his native State, and fortified by strong principles inherited from his worthy parents, he started out into the world to make life's journey on his own account in 1837. He went to Ohio by the way of Lake Champlain and Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by Lake Erie to Cleveland, from there by canal to Columbus, whence he took a team to Champaign County. He worked on a farm there until 1843, when he returned to Vermont, and engaged in farming on his own account until 1853. He then sold all his possessions in the Green Mountain State, and in the month of March started on a second journey westward. He stopped in Champaign County, Ohio, until the following February, and in that month came to Metamora and settled on the farm that is still in his possession. There were but few improvemets here then, and it has been Mr. Kellogg's good fortune to witness much of the development of this part of the county, and not only that, but to aid in its upbuilding himself. His homestead of eighty acres is all well improved, and he has besides eighty acres of fine farming land near by in Cazenovia Township, and forty acres in Roanoke Township, all under excellent cultivation.

Mr. Kellogg has been twice married. The first time in Champaign County, Ohio, in 1837, to Miss Laura Darling, a native of Woodstock, Windsor Co., Vt., and a daughter of Joseph and Nellie

Darling. After a happy wedded life of six years she died in 1843, leaving one child, Warner, now residing in Cazenovia Township. The second marriage of our subject, which took place in Vermont in 1847, was to Dorothy W. Boynton, like himself a native of Stowe, Vt., and a daughter of David and Martha (Warren) Boynton. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg have two children living—Martha and Phebe. Their son Lorenzo Dow died at the age of fourteen years.

During his many years' residence here Mr. Kellogg has shown himself to be a conscientious, God-fearing man, whose life-record is without blemish. He and his wife are attendants of the Baptist Church, and are active in its support. He is a loyal adherent of the Democratic party in his political views.

JOHN ELLIS. The farming community of El Paso Township acknowledges a most worthy representative in the subject of this notice. Quite well advanced in years, he is one of the oldest farmers and stock-raisers in the county, and is now living retired from active labor, his residence being in West El Paso, where he has a very pleasant and comfortable home. This he has occupied for the last ten years, and has become a familiar figure to the residents of the city. Prior to this he lived on a fine farm of 200 acres in Palestine Township, this county, which he improved from the raw prairie, and upon which he settled in 1857, remaining there until taking possession of his present home. In connection with farming he operated a dairy, and was generally successful in his various enterprises.

The subject of our sketch emigrated from England when a poor man, early in life, and settled in New Jersey, where he lived four and one-half years. He was born in the North Riding of Yorkshire, Nov. 6, 1816, and of pure English stock. His father, Sylvester Ellis, made his living by honest labor, mostly at farming, and when a young man was married to a maiden of his own shire, Miss Mary Render. They reared their family and spent their last days a few miles from the place of their birth. The father lived to the advanced age of eighty-four years, and the mother died when seventy-five years old. They were Episcopalians in religion, and worthy, honest people, who commanded universal respect wherever known. They were the parents of one child only, the subject of this sketch.

John Ellis received careful home training, and remained with his parents until his marriage. This important and interesting event was celebrated in North Riding, in May, 1836, the bride being Miss Mary Nettleton, who was born in Yorkshire, May 1, 1815. Her parents, Joseph and Anna (Toole) Nettleton, were likewise natives of Yorkshire, where they settled after their marriage, and where they spent the remainder of their lives, both attaining nearly three-score years. Like the Ellis family they were Episcopalians in religion, and highly respected in their community.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis after their marriage continued the habits of industry in which they had been trained, and worked together with a mutual purpose to obtain a home and a competence. Our subject, however, was not satisfied with the progress he was making financially, and after he had become the father of several children, he in the early part of 1852 came to America. After a few month's sojourn in New Jersey he returned to England during the summer of that same year, and brought back with him his family, landing in New York City upon the day that Franklin Pierce was elected President of the United States. He went to New Jersey and established himself and his little family at Weston, in Somerset County, where they lived four and one-half years, and then came to Illinois, as already indicated. Settling in Woodford County, Mr. Ellis improved a piece of wild land in Palestine Township, and after years of unremitting toil finally found himself financially on solid ground.

To our subject and his excellent wife there was born a large family of children, two of whom are deceased: One died in infancy, and Thomas was taken from the household circle at the age of thirty-seven; John, Jr., the eldest living, is President of the Peoples' Bank, at Beatrice, Neb.; Mary is the wife of Robert Hitch, a farmer of El Paso Township; Joseph is farming in Grant Town-

ship, Gage County, and he is also a Director in the Peoples' Bank at Beatrice; Jane is the wife of Harry Hitch, a farmer of Hamilton County, Neb.; Margaret, Mrs. Charles Campbell, is a resident of Wichita, Kan.; Thomas S. occupies the old homestead in Palestine Township. Our subject, politically, is a sound Republican, and Mrs. Ellis is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Ellis owned a large elevator in West El Paso. This has a capacity of 30,000 bushels of grain; he has recently sold it, and it is operated by another party to whom Mr. Ellis transferred the business sometime since.

WALTER H. HAMM. Among the men who, during the early settlement of Panola Township, improved a farm from the wilderness, may be worthily mentioned the subject of this notice. He has now wisely retired from the active labors of life, having taken up his residence in El Paso in the fall of 1888, and is living in the enjoyment of the competence which he secured through arduous toil, economy and good management. He owns eighty acres of choice land on section 22 in Panola Township, 120 acres on section 9, and eighty acres on section 16, the homestead being on the latter. This he built up from a raw prairie, cultivating the soil, erecting buildings and instituting the improvements in keeping with the ideas of modern agriculture. He began farming in Panola Township in 1861, of which he was a continuous resident until his removal to El Paso.

Mr. Hamm came to this county from New York State, where he had lived in Putnam County eighteen months, and to which he had removed from Livingston County, of which he had been a resident five years. Prior to this he had been a resident of Columbia County, N. Y., near the Duchess County line. He was born in Gallatin Township, Putnam County, Sept. 6, 1830, and is the son of Peter P. Hamm, a native of Columbia County, N. Y. The paternal grandfather, Peter Hamm, was of German parentage and ancestry and lived to be seventy-eight years old. He died in Scoharie County. His wife in her girlhood was Mary Hamm. She died in Massachusetts when ninety-one years old and was a member of the German Reformed Church.

Peter P. Hamm, the father of our subject, was the eldest in a family of seven sons and five daughters. He was reared to manhood in Columbia County, N. Y., being brought up on a farm, and still lives in the county of his birth, being now ninety-three years old. He presents a remarkable picture of health and strength, both of mind and body, the result of temperate habits and correct living. He married in early manhood Miss Clara Van Allen, a native of the same State, and who died in 1882 at the age of eighty-two years. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church. Walter H. was their only son in a family of eight children, all of whom lived to mature years.

Our subject received his early education in the common schools of his native county, spending his boyhood and youth on the farm and coming to Illinois with the family. He was married in this county to Miss Lucinda Allen, who was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, June 17, 1847. When a child of seven years she came with her parents, John and Susan (Marion) Allen, to Illinois, and they are now living in Lexington, McLean County, being quite well advanced in years. Mr. Allen has attained to nearly fourscore years. They came to this State in 1853; both are members of the United Brethren Church. In former years they belonged to the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Hamm was a mere child when her parents came to Illinois. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children, one of whom died in infancy. Clara remains at home with her parents; she is a bright and accomplished young lady, having been graduated from the El Paso High School. Susan is also a graduate from this school and remains under the parental roof; Ira L. is still pursuing his studies in that institution. Mr. and Mrs. Hamm are active members of the United Brethren Church, in which our subject has held various positions of trust and responsibility for some years back. He was instrumental in the organization of the church in Panola Township and was Superintendent of the first Sunday-school there.

John W. Page

Politieally, he conseientiously supports the principles of the Republiean party.

John Allen, the father of Mrs. Hamm, was born in England and lived there until a youth of sixteen years. In the meantime his father died, and in 1826 he emigrated to the United States aeeompanied by his mother. The latter spent her last years in Zanesville, Ohio, living to the great age of nearly one hundred years. The great-grandfather of Mrs. Hamm was game-keeper for an English nobleman.

Mrs. Susan Allen, the mother, was born in Pennsylvania and was of German or Holland-Duteh deseent. She removed to Ohio with her parents when quite young and is now living in Lexington, being seventy-six years of age.

JOHN W. PAGE, a veteran of the Mexican War, familiarly known as "Unele John," is a beloved and honored eitizen of Metamora, with whose interests his own have been identified for more than half a century. His name is indissolubly assoeiated with the growth and progress of Woodford County almost from its origin, as he has always been foremost in all enterprises to promote its development, and there has been no scheme evolved for the advancement of the business and soeial interests of Metamora, with which he has not been prominently connected. He has also been a eonspieuous figure in publie life, and has held many important offiees of trust. He was for many years a prosperous agrieulturist here, but finally turned his attention to eommereial pursuits as a merchant, and later eombined that business with banking, and he has done mueh to strengthen the financial eondition of the county.

Our subjeet eomes of a long line of New England aneestry, and among his progenitors were some who loeated in that part of the eountry in very early eolonial times, when it was first settled by the English, they being pioneers there, as their descendants have been in the great West. Mr. Page was born in Gilmanton, Belknap Co., N. H., Jan. 13, 1814. His father, John Page, was born in the same town, Oet. 28, 1787, while his father, Andrew Page, was born in Salisbury, Mass., July 20, 1751. Moses Page, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Salisbury, Essex Co., Mass., Sept. 3, 1726. His father, John Page, was born in Dedham, Mass., June 17, 1696, and was a son of the Hon. John Page, who was a native of Dedham, England, and is the first one of the aneestors of our subjeet mentioned as eoming to Ameriea, he having made his appearance in this eountry in 1630. He was one of the first settlers of the town of Dedham, Mass., and there spent the remainder of his life. His son, John, married Mary Winslow, and settled in the town of Salisbury, Mass., living there the remainder of his life. His son Moses married Judith French, daughter of Benjamin Freneh, Sr., and resided in his native town, Sailsbury, many years thereafter. Finally he joined his ehildren in Gilmanton, N. H., and passed his last days with them. His son, Andrew, married Elizabeth Page, and was one of the first settlers of Gilmanton; the removal from his old home by the sea in Massaehusetts to the New Hampshire hills being made on horsebaek. He bought a traet of land in the primeval forest, and at onee eleared the trees from a small pieee that he might eultivate it, and ehopped in the seed with a hoe, and in due season harvested a goodly erop from the virgin soil. After felling the timber from that traet of land, he purehased another in the same town, and improved a farm upon whieh he resided until his demise.

The father of our subject was reared to agrieultural pursuits. He received a good aeademieal edueation, and eommeneed teaehing when quite young, and taught a number of terms of winter school. He married and settled in his native State, and becoming quite prominent in publie affairs, his time was oeeupied by offieial duties. He served as Justiee of the Peaee for many years, and for three terms was a prominent member of the State Legislature of New Hampshire. He continued to reside there till 1835, and then, animated by the bold pioneer spirit that had led his ancestors aeross the sea, he started with his family for the wild prairies of the West, and coming to Illinois, loeated in Metamora. The village had not then been platted, and there was not a house on its present site. He

entered a tract of land, a part of which is included in the limits of the present city, improvising a rude dwelling for the shelter of his family by procuring some forked stakes from the timber, which he stuck in the ground, and then put up some poles, and covered them with boards. This building not proving water-tight, he rived some oak shingles and covered the boards. He lived in that habitation two or three years, and then built a more substantial frame house, residing there till his death, Oct. 1, 1855. In the meantime he improved a good farm. Here, as in his native State, he was active in public affairs, and held various offices of trust and honor. He served as representative in the Illinois Legislature. He was a Democrat, and bore an honorable part in the councils of his party. He was always deeply interested in educational matters, assisted in organizing the school districts, and was school director and treasurer. His good wife, to whom he was united in marriage April 15, 1811, survived him many years, her death occurring on the home farm, Dec. 16, 1872. Her maiden name was Betsy Wilson, and she was born March 27, 1791, a daughter of Nathaniel and Betsy (True) Wilson. She was a direct descendant of one Thomas Wilson, who came from Scotland to America in 1633. He was one of the Wheelwright Compact in Exeter, N. H., in 1638. The next in line was his son Humphrey, who was followed by his son Thomas, and after him came another Humphrey, whose son. Capt. Nathaniel Wilson, great-grandfather of our subject, was born June 24, 1739, and commanded a company in the continental army during the Revolution. His son, the Rev. Nathaniel Wilson, was born Aug. 8, 1769, and was a preacher in the Baptist Church, but also engaged in the mercantile business and in farming. He lived many years in Gilmanton, N. H., but passed his last days in Barnstead. The maiden name of his first wife, grandmother of our subject, was Betsy True. The following is recorded of the ten children born to the parents of our subject: Elizabeth married Benjamin G. Kendig, now deceased; our subject is the next in order of birth; Elvira married William H. Banta, and lives in Warsaw, Iowa; Andrew lives in Wyoming; for account of Adino see sketch of John L. McGuire; Samuel True lives in Metamora; Moses P. lives in Wayne County, Iowa; Thadeus; Mary E. died when two years old; Benjamin Edwin was killed before Spanish Fort in the late war. S. True served in the 4th Illinois in the Mexican War, and took part in the battles of Cerro Gordo and Vera Cruz. Early in the late war he offered his services to his country, and was mustered in as a member of the 108th Illinois Infantry, and was with his regiment till the close of hostilities, taking part in many important battles. Benjamin Edwin enlisted as a soldier in the same regiment, and took part in many hotly contested battles, and finally gave up his life for his country at the battle of Spanish Fort.

John W. Page, of whom we write, passed his early life in his native town, receiving the best educational advantages afforded by the local schools. When nineteen years of age, he went out into the world beyond his birthplace, and in Charlestown, Mass., was engaged in brick-making two seasons. In the winter of 1834-35 he taught a term of school in the town of Alton, N. H. In the month of June, 1835, he sought fairer opportunities and broader fields of work on the ample, generous prairies of Illinois, making the journey by stage as far as Troy, N. Y.; thence by the Erie Canal to Buffalo; from there on Lake Erie to Cleveland; thence across Ohio by canal to Portsmouth; and there he embarked on a boat for the voyage on the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Pekin, this State: and from there he came by team to his destination in Woodford County, having been a month on the way. This section of the country then formed a part of Tazewell County, and the land, which was still owned by the Government, was for sale at $1.25 per acre.

Our subject entered the southwest quarter of section 20, in what is now Metamora Township, and then proceeded at once to erect a frame house, hewing the frame and splitting boards for weather boards and shingles, and for the door, providing the latter with wooden hinges and a wooden latch. His family moved into this dwelling before the doors and windows were in, hanging blankets over the openings to keep out the wild animals. Not having the necessary furniture, a chest was used for a table and trunks for seats till Mr. Page could split

some boards for a table and make some chairs. When he came here, his entire wealth consisted of $120 in cash, and having borrowed $200 of his uncle to enter his land, he soon sold his father eighty acres of his land in part payment at the value of $100, and after paying his uncle the other $100 that he had borrowed of him, he had $20 left. He invested $14 of that in a cow, and having but $6 left, he was obliged to work out by the day to earn money with which to support his family. He soon bought a pair of steers, but before he had paid for them they died. Nothwithstanding all the discouragements of pioneer life and the many sacrifices required, he never became disheartened, but pressed on toward the success he achieved in after life. He continued to work out, and the next spring he bought a pair of oxen and took some steers to train, and thus brought a good breaking team together. In 1837 he rented an improved farm at Walnut Grove, and by its profitable cultivation obtained money to continue improvements on his own land. There were no railways here for many years, and Peoria was the principal market, though considerable grain was taken to Chicago, 125 miles distant.

Our subject was prosperously engaged in farming till 1856, when he turned his attention to the mercantile business, and after serving as clerk in a general store a year, he formed a partnership with his brother Adino, who still continued to reside in Massachusetts, and they engaged in the groceery business, and two years later added dry goods, and in 1875 engaged in the banking business with their other interests. They carried on a large and lucrative business till 1885, when, his brother dying, our our subject closed out the business, and has since lived retired, in the enjoyment of the handsome income that he derives from the fine property that he has accumulated by wise management and superior business qualifications. Mr. Page is a veteran of the Mexican War, having enlisted in 1846, in the 4th Illinois Infantry. He went to Tampico, Mex., filled with soldierly ardor, but the climate did not agree with him, and after serving efficiently till 1847, he was honorably discharged on account of disability.

Mr. Page and Miss Rebecca E. Page were united in marriage Jan. 13, 1835. They have one son now living, Charles Alvin. Two children died in infancy. Their daughter, Ann E., died in her twenty-first year, and their son, John True, died at eighteen years of age. Rebecca E. Page was born in South Montville, Me., June 11, 1812, and is the daughter of True and Abigail (Edgerly) Page.

Mr. Page's life-career has been distinguished by rare energy and stability of character, and prompt and systematic business habits, combined with honorable and conscientious dealings, and his course furnishes an illustrious example to the young who are just starting out in the world to seek fortune's favors. He enjoys a high personal standing throughout the county, and holds a warm place in the hearts of hosts of friends, and is one of the very few men of whom every one speaks well. During his long residence here of more than half a century, he has been conspicuously identified with the political and public life of Woodford County from its very beginning. When the county was organized, there was quite a struggle among the inhabitants as to the location of the county seat. Being a resident of Metamora, he threw his influence with his fellow-citizens in favor of this city, and they carried the day, securing the location of the county seat here, and making Metamora an important metropolis of a rich agricultural region. Mr. Page has always been foremost in all enterprises for the good of the county, and when a company was organized to build a railway from Metamora to Washington, he became one of its most prominent members, and was Treasurer of the company. There has not been a worthy enterprise inaugurated in Metamora for the benefit of the city with which he has not been connected. A pronounced adherent of the Democratic party, he has always been one of its most intelligent and liberal supporters. His fellow-citizens have honored him by election to various offices of trust, which he has filled with characteristic fidelity and ability. He has served as Coroner, as Superintendent of Schools, two terms as County Treasurer, and he has also served as School and Village Treasurer many years. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity many years, first belonging to Metamora Lodge, No. 42; later joining Woodford Chapter, No. 110,

and Metamora Council, and he has been for several years a member of the Peoria Commandery, No. 3. He and his wife are people of high Christian principles, disciples of the Baptist faith, being members of that church, and worshiping at Union Church in Metamora.

A portrait of Mr. Page appears on another page, and will be looked upon with affectionate interest by his many friends, who esteem him highly for his beauty of soul and depth of mind.

HON. JOEL A. RANNEY, a representative citizen of Woodford County, is classed among its most intelligent, successful farmers and stock raisers. He is the son of a pioneer family, and the old homestead on which he lives was at the time of his father's purchase in the early days of the settlement of this region, a tract of wild, uncultivated prairie land. Now, with its well-tilled acres, its neat and commodious buildings, and various modern improvements, it is considered one of the most desirable farms in the locality.

Mr. Ranney comes of honorable New England blood, and is himself a native of that part of the country, born amid the beautiful hills of Windsor County, Vt., in the pretty town of Stockbridge, Oct. 18, 1831. His father, Deacon Joel Ranney, was a native of the same town, a son of Daniel Ranney, who is supposed to have been born in Westminster, Windham Co., Vt. He was a farmer by occupation, and spent his last years in Windsor County. The father was there reared and married, and when he settled down in life he bought a farm in Stockbridge, and later in Barnard. In 1838 he sold his possessions in his native State and with his wife and two children started on the then long and tedious journey to the western wilds of Illinois, the entire trip being made in a wagon drawn by two horses, carrying the household goods along. Six weeks and four days later the family arrived at their destination in this county, and soon after the father bought a tract of wild prairie land in what is now Metamora Township. He erected a frame house for the shelter of his family, and at once commenced to prepare the land for cultivation. There were then no railways here, and for many years the nearest markets were at Peoria and Lacon. Jan. 14, 1848, the father's useful career was brought to an end by his untimely death, he being then in the prime of a vigorous manhood, aged forty-two years and eight months. A citizen of great worth was thus lost to his community, one who while working to build up a competence for himself and family, contributed to the material progress of his adopted township. His wife survived him till July 18, 1858, when she too passed away, her death occurring on the old homestead. She carried blessing, comfort and care to the sick and afflicted, and so ordered her household that "her children arise up and call her blessed." Her maiden name was Elizabeth T. Morse, and she was born in Antrim, N. H., a daughter of Parker Morse. (For her parental history see sketch of L. P. Morse.) Two children were born of her marriage, our subject and his sister, Esther J., who married Alvin Packard, and lives near Bloomington, Ill.

He of whom we write was six years old when his parents brought him to this county, and he gleaned his education in the pioneer schools of that day. As soon as he was large enough he commenced to assist his father on the farm, and has always made his home on the old homestead, which he thus early aided in improving. He now has 200 acres of as fine farming land as is to be found in this locality, and has a good set of substantial frame buildings and all the conveniences for carrying on agriculture successfully. Sept. 4, 1856, Mr. Ranney was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Frances L. Everett, a woman whose many amiable qualities endear her to those around her, and whose capabilities have made her a model wife and mother. Her father, Deacon Willard Everett, came from Francestown, N. H., in 1843, bringing with him his wife, and a family of small children, but not much property. Industry and economy enabled him to support his family, and educate his children, and obtain a fair competency. He was an active worker in the anti-slavery and temperance causes, and an earnest Christian, and a member of the Congre-

gational Church. The mother of Mrs. Ranney was Frances C. S. Dodge, and she, like her husband, took an active interest in all good work. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of eight children, of whom four are living—Lillie F., Mark J., Justin M., Milo M. Lillie is the wife of Dr. Mansfield, of Metamora, and they have one child, Esther.

Mr. Ranney has a well-balanced mind, and is dowered with firmness, decision, and that sturdy self-respect and rectitude of character that commands the confidence of all, and has won him a high place in the councils of his fellow-citizens. He has represented Metamora Township on the County Board of Supervisors with credit to himself, and has advanced the best interests of his township and county. His fellow-citizens have honored him and themselves by electing him to the State Legislature, first in 1876, and so satisfactorily did he fill that high position that they re-elected him in the fall of 1878. His whole course while a member of that distinguished body showed him to be actuated by the purest and most patriotic motives, and marked him as a practical statesman who never for a moment prostituted public office for private ends. He takes an active and intelligent interest in politics, was in early manhood and in ante-bellum times an outspoken, earnest Abolitionist. After the formation of the Republican party, sympathizing deeply with the sentiments of its founders, he joined its ranks, and has ever since remained true to its principles. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Ranney and their three eldest children are members in high standing of the Congregational Church.

JACOB KNAPP. One of the most enterprising residents of Clayton Township, and also one of the most active members and liberal supporters of the Lutheran Church of his community, is Jacob Knapp. His home is at present on section 10, Clayton Township, but it is his intention in the spring of 1890, to removed to Minonk, where he has business poperty. Mr. Knapp has been so fortunate in business, that he is now the owner of four fine farms, each comprising about 160 acres. These will be a valuable legacy to his four children, whom he has already assisted through the troublesome years of the beginning of a business life. Besides this land, he also owns 320 acres of land in Nebraska. Not only does he own this property, but he is able to say that he owes no man, as he believes it always a good plan to be in debt to no one.

In politics he is a supporter of Republican principles, and has always assisted his friends to official positions, though never desiring them for himself. Like many other Germans, who have made this county their home, he has taken up the beliefs, and adopted the principles of his new home, and is in truth a citizen of the United States in the love he bears his adopted country.

His wife was in her youth Miss Philipena Moek, with whom he was united in marriage, June 3, 1852. She was a native of the same town as her husband, they having attended school together in childhood days. They became the parents of two sons and two daughters, viz: Philipena, wife of William Barth; Lizzie, who is the wife of Charles H. Danforth; Jacob is married to Miss Caroline Shaffer; and John P. They all received good educations, and were well fitted and prepared for life's work. They are now comfortably settled in their homes, and owe their present prosperous condition to the earnest, well-directed efforts of their father and mother, as well as to their own energy.

Mr. Knapp came to America in 1849, but dates his residence in Woodford County from the year 1858. He was a native of Hanksbyer, Germany, and was born Feb. 15, 1824. During his youth he assisted his aged parents in whatever was needed to be done, and lightened their burdens as they came near the closing years of life. He also served in the German army between the years 1846 and 1849. The latter year he sought a home here in America, where he landed August 15. He did not remain in New York City where he had landed, but went almost immediately to Boston, and secured a position in a sugar-house as clerk. But not content with the East, and having heard of the great possibilities of the Western land, he was induced to emigrate to Illinois in 1854. On the 14th of Sep-

tember he stopped at Lacon, where he remained all winter. He found employment in splitting rails and chopping wood, his remuneration therefor being fifty cents per day. He lived in an old log cabin built in the primitive style of architecture, for which he paid $3 rent per month, and for his firewood had to pay $1. The following spring he had saved enough money to buy a team and to rent a farm. From that time on he was prospered, gradually working his way to independence. In 1858 he purchased eighty acres of his present farm, paying for it the sum of $16 per acre. It was railroad land, and when bought, was in the primitive condition of nature, but through his industry has been transformed to a pleasant homestead. When he settled on this place, he was able to pay only the interest money, $86. Persistent effort has brought its own reward, and he now lives surrounded by all the comforts of life, secure in the knowledge that his old age will be protected from want, and that he will leave his family amply provided for. He has not only been successful financially, but he and his family have endeared themselves to all the neighborhood by th eir many kindnesses to those in trouble. Their friends are always welcome to their hospitable home, while they are in turn honored guests in the best homes in Woodford County.

LESTER B. BARTON, of pioneer antecedents, and himself an early settler of Metamora Township, of which he is still an honored resident, has long been connected with the extensive farming interests of Woodford County. He is a worthy descendant of noble New England stock, and numbers among his ancestors some of the original settlers of Massachusetts. His paternal grandfather was a pioneer physician and preacher of Tennessee, and in the next generation our subject's parents were early pioneers of Illinois.

The subject of this biography was born April 20, 1820, in Overton County, Tenn. His father, Theodore S. Barton, was a native of Worcester County, Mass, and his grandfather, the Rev. Titus B. Barton, was also born in Massachussetts. He was a man of more than ordinary intellectual ability, distinguished by moral excellence, and was highly educated for the times, being a graduate of Dartmouth College. He was a physician of much skill as well as a preacher in the Presbyterian Church. He was for a time the pastor of a congregation of that denomination in Tewksbury, Mass., and during the War of 1812 was loyal to the United States Government, while many of his parishioners were against the Government in that struggle. In consequence of such a difference of opinion the Rev. Mr. Barton severed his connection with that church, and in 1817, with his family he emigrated to Tennessee, the entire journey being made with teams. He located in Overton County, and there practiced medicine and expounded the Gospel to his fellow-pioneers. He was very much opposed to the institution of slavery, and his daily prayer was that he might once more be in a free state. In 1828, accompanied by his wife, sons and sons-in-law with their wives, he set forth on the journey to Illinois, his dearest wish about to be gratified, the removal hither being made with several teams, the stock being driven on before. The aged patriarch and his little flock traversed the States of Tennessee and Kentucky, crossed the Ohio River, and at last he stood on the borders of the promised land. His fervent prayers were answered, and like Moses his life was destined to end after the welcome sight. He arose after a night's rest in apparent good health, went to the door to view the surrounding country, and on his return remarked to his wife that it was a "pleasant morning", and then he fell to the floor and expired. He was laid to rest on the banks of the Ohio, and the remainder of the family proceeded sadly to their destination in Jacksonville, and there located among its earliest pioneers.

The father of our subject was a young man when he left his early home in Massachusetts and accompanied his parents to Tennessee. He had left his heart behind him, however, and in 1818 he journeyed on horseback to New York, where his promised bride lived, and was married in Oneida County, that State. Immediately after that event

he and his young wife started on their wedding tour in a light wagon, drawn by one horse, and thus traveled to Tennessee, where they began their wedded life, living there till 1827, when as before related they came to Illinois. At the time the family located in Jacksonville, it was but a small hamlet, with about fifteen houses, a part of them built of logs. Mr. Barton was a natural mechanic, and before he left his native home in Massachusetts, he had worked at the machinist's trade in Lowell, Mass., and had assisted in the erection of some of the first mills built in that State. After his removal to Morgan County, he resumed his trade and plied it in Jacksonville till 1843. He then came to Metamora and purchased a home in town, and established himself at his trade. He continued to reside here until his death, at which time a worthy citizen was lost to this community, one to whom all respect was paid as he had led an honorable and upright life. The maiden name of his wife was Clarrissa Barker. She was born in Oneida County, N. Y., of which her father, Levi Barker, a native of New England, was one of the early settlers.

Lester Barton, of this sketch, was seven years old when he came to Illinois with his parents, and he remembers quite distinctly the incidents of the journey to Morgan County, and of the subsequent pioneer life there. He gleaned his education in the primitive schools of those early days of the settlement of the State. In 1836 he journeyed across the country from Morgan County to this county with a team, and found the surrounding country almost in its original wild state, not many settlements having been made, and a great deal of the land was for sale by the Government at $1.25 per acre. After a visit of a few weeks Mr. Barton returned to his home in Morgan County, where he remained until 1843, when he made a permanent settlement in this county, locating on his present place four miles northeast of Metamora. It was then a tract of wild prairie land, but by patient toil and judicious management Mr. Barton has got it under fine tillage, so that it yields good harvests. He has planted beautiful shade, ornamental and fruit trees; has erected a good frame house and necessary farm buildings, and has by various other improvements greatly increased its value.

Mr. Barton has been twice married. He was first wedded in 1852 to Miss Mary Stephenson, a native of Kentucky. But their married life was not destined to be of a very long duration, as she died in 1857, after the death of her infant daughter, Anna. Mr. Barton was married to his present wife, formerly Miss Elvira F. Dutton, a native of Vermont, in 1867. Their marriage has been blessed to them by the birth of four children —Mary E., Charles M., Nellie E. and Lester Edward.

Mr. Barton is of a practical turn of mind, and, by careful attention to his calling he has acquired a competence amply sufficient to free him from the necessity of hard labor, and to fortify his declining years against want and poverty. Both he, and his amiable wife are held in kindly regard by the people among whom they have lived so many years. They are both religiously inclined, he being of the Presbyterian faith, while his wife is a member of the Congregational Church, and they are now associated with the Union Church at Metamora.

JOSEPH REED has long been numbered among the leading farmers of this county, and is one of its early settlers. He is now engaged in general farming on section 3, Montgomery Township, where he has made his home since 1852, covering a period of thirty-seven years. Previous to that time he had become a resident of Illinois and located in Tazewell County, where he remained until the year above mentioned. His native State is Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Schuylkill County, on the 8th day of June, 1827. His parents, Lewis and Mary (Myers) Reed, were also born in the Keystone State and were descended from ancestry who belonged to the Pennsylvania Dutch. Five children were born unto them in Pennsylvania, after which, accompanied by their family, they emigrated to the West, locating near Circleville, Pickaway County, Ohio, during the early days of its history. In that community the children were reared to manhood and the father was called to his final rest. He

died before he had reached his fiftieth year, and his loss was sincerely mourned by many warm friends. His widow was afterwards again married, her second union being with John Buck. They later became residents of Fairfield County, Ohio, where Mrs. Buck died at the advanced age of eighty years. Like her husbands, she was a member of the Evangelical Association and was a faithful Christian woman.

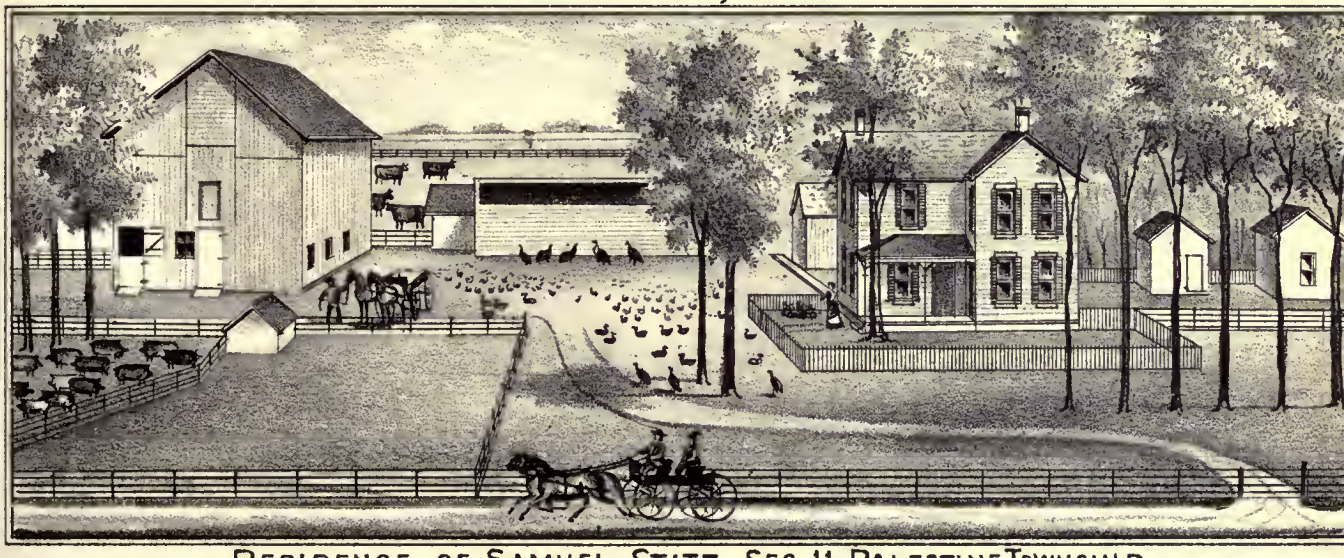
The subject of this sketch was the third child of the family. When but a young lad he removed with his parents to Pickaway County, Ohio, where his early life was spent amid play and work. He was educated in the schools of that county, and was reared to habits of industry and usefulness which have been very essential to him in his after-life. In Pickaway County, he also formed the acquaintance of Miss Polly Freeze, and their friendship ripening into a warmer attachment, they were united in marriage. Mrs. Reed was born in Nov. 8, 1832, in the county where their wedding was celebrated and is a sister of Rev. G. W. Freeze, whose history appears elsewhere in this work. The family circle of this worthy couple was completed by the birth of the following children: Lewis, who married George Ann Huxtable, and now owns and operates a farm of eighty acres in Montgomery Township; Jonathan, who wedded Miss Rosa Gordon, is living on a farm in Panola Township; William was joined in wedlock with Viola Kingsolver, and is engaged in the cultivation of a farm in Polk County, Neb.; Lyman, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Montgomery Township, wedded Miss Lizzie Naffziger; Emma is the wife of A. Dorwood, a resident farmer of the same township; Ida became the wife of Frank Dorwood, a farmer of Cruger Township; Alvin and Rosa, the two youngest, are at home. Death has never entered the home of this family; all are yet living, and the children have become respected men and women who do honor to their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed began their married life in Pickaway County, whence they came to Illinois, and, as before stated, made their home in Tazewell County until becoming residents of this community. Throughout his business career Mr. Reed has followed the occupation of farming, and by the united efforts of himself and wife has secured a comfortable competency. His landed possessions at one time aggregated 400 acres, but as his children left the parental roof he gave to them portions of that amount. The farm upon which he now resides is one of the best in the county, its well tilled fields, good buildings and high grades of stock indicating the owner to be a practical and progressive farmer. His residence is a substantial and commodious dwelling, shaded by beautiful trees, and the other improvements are in keeping with the pleasant home. Mr. Reed is truly a self-made man, for his success is due entirely to his own efforts. He has steadily worked his way upward until he is now numbered among the well-to-do farmers of the community, and his family are surrounded with all the comforts of life. In public life he manifests a warm interest and has aided in the progress and development of the county for almost forty years. He is a liberal supporter of all worthy enterprises, and is found in the front ranks of social, moral and educational interests. In politics, he is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, and both Mr. and Mrs. Reed are members of the United Brethren Church, in which he holds the office of Trustee.

FRANCIS M. NASH, proprietor of the Eureka Creamery, is conducting a rapidly increasing business of which he has been proprietor since the fall of 1887, when he purchased the present plant and has proven himself well adapted to the requirements of the industry. This creamery averages about 300 pounds of butter per day, which is shipped mostly to Peoria and Chicago. Three teams and three men are employed in and around the factory, the proprietor of which has fully established himself in the confidence of his community by his good qualities as a man and a citizen.

Mr. Nash was born in McHenry County, this State, May 26, 1861, and was the fourth in a family of seven children, the offspring of Sidney and

RESIDENCE OF CHRISTIAN MILLER, SEC. 31. PALESTINE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL STITT, SEC. 11. PALESTINE TOWNSHIP.

RESIDENCE OF CHRIS ENGEL, SEC. 3. PANOLA TOWNSHIP.

Caroline (Carpenter) Nash, who are now residents of McHenry County. He was reared to manhood in his native county, becoming familiar with farm pursuits at the parental homestead and acquiring his education in the common school. He lived in McHenry County until the spring of 1884, then started out for himself, going first to Wisconsin and employing himself at the creamery business the following summer. In the fall of that year, coming to Eureka he entered the employ of Eyeman & McGuire, proprietors of the Eureka Creamery and remained with them as the employe of Harry Chamberlain until the fall of 1887. He had by this time gained a good knowledge of the business and felt himself equal to the task of prosecuting it on his own account, and accordingly made the experiment with the results already indicated.

Mr. Nash went into Wisconsin for his bride, being married in Sharon, that State, Dec. 27, 1882, to Miss Julia Mosher. This lady was born in McHenry County, Ill., Nov. 3, 1860, and is the daughter of William and Caroline Mosher, the father living in McHenry County. The mother is deceased. Of this union there has been born one child, a son, Fred A. The little family occupies a snug dwelling in the east part of town, convenient to the business of Mr. Nash, to which he gives the greater part of his time and attention. He meddles very little with political affairs but upon occasions of general elections gives his support to the Republican party.

SAMUEL MUNDELL. It gives us great pleasure to insert in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM, a sketch of the life of this gentleman, who, as an early pioneer of Woodford County, has been associated with its growth and material prosperity many years. He is extensively engaged in agricultural pursuits, and has a large tract of land on sections 28 and 29, Cazenovia Township, which he has developed into a fine farm, as highly cultivated and as well improved as any in this part of Illinois.

Our subject was born in Greene County, Whitely Township, Pa., Jan. 21, 1815. His father, James Mundell, was born in the same township, while his grandfather, Abner Mundell, was born not far away on Little Whitely Creek. His father, John Mundell, was a native of Wales, and came to America with his father, who located in Pennsylvania in colonial times, taking up a large tract of land on Little Whitely Creek. After building a cabin he left his son John to look after his place, and started on the return voyage to Wales for the purpose of bringing the rest of his family to America, and neither he nor any other member of the family was ever heard from again by the son, left a stranger in a strange land. He came into possession of his father's land, improved it into a good farm, reared a family thereon, and there passed away at a ripe old age. The grandfather of our subject was bred to agricultural pursuits on that old homestead and, after marriage, removed to Big Whitely, and bought a hundred acres of land in Whitely Township. He had previously learned the trades of a blacksmith and wheelwright, and pursued them, making among other things a great many spinning wheels and reels. He spent his last years on his home farm in Whitely Township. The father of our subject was there reared and married. He learned the trade of a cooper and followed that in Pennsylvania till 1819, when he moved to Ohio County, Va., where he established himself at the same trade. In 1827 he removed to Wayne County, Ind., the removal being made with a three-horse team, and bought a tract of timber land four miles from the village of Milton. There was a log cabin on the place into which he and his family put their household goods, and in that humble abode he made his home the few remaining months of his life, which closed in August, 1828, thus ending a useful, industrious career in life's prime. The maiden name of his wife was Esther Jones, and she was the daughter of Morgan and Mary Jones, and spent her last years in Cazenovia Township. Her father was a native of Delaware. He removed to West Virginia, and there bought up large tracts of land in the time when the claims were marked by blazed trees. He secured a patent from the government, and erecting a sawmill in Ohio County, cleared some of his land and en-

gaged in the manufacture of lumber. He also bought about 400 acres of land in Pennsylvania, and removing to it, passed the remainder of his life there. The mother of our subject inherited one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land from her father's estate in Virginia, and traded it for eighty acres in Indiana. In 1829, the year following the sad death of the father, the family removed to Illinois, traveling to their destination in Vermilion County with a team. In 1835 they came to this county, and here the mother entered 160 acres of government land on section 29, Cazenovia Township. They found this part of the State in a very wild, sparsely inhabited condition, with deer and plenty of game roaming over the broad prairies or through the timber. There was but one gun in the family and the boys used to take turns in hunting game, thus keeping the larder well supplied with savory venison, ond occasionally selling a deer. When they first located here the nearest postoffiee was at Crow Meadow, ten miles distant, in Marshall County, and Lacon and Peoria were the nearest markets for years. There were eight children born to the parents of our subject—Samuel, Abner, Mary, Simeon, Jane, Sarah, Eleanor, James.

Samuel, our subject was the eldest, and on him devolved the management of the farm to a considerable extent, and he was of great assistance to his mother in keeping the family together, and in making the most of their limited circumstances. He and his brothers farmed together, and they had various ways of earning money, one being to split rails for a dollar a hundred. Samuel was four years old when his parents left the place of his birth and took up their abode in Virginia, and he was sixteen years old when he accompanied them to Vermilion County, this State, they being amongst the first settlers there. In August he came with his mother, brothers and sisters to that part of Tazewell County now included in Woodford County, and selected a location in Cazenovia Township, as before mentioned, and in the fall the family took up their permanent abode here. Our subject rented a cabin and a piece of land of Morgan Buekingham for four years, it being cleared and ready for cultivation, and during that time he erected a hewed log house on his mother's place. He continued to make his home with his mother until he was married, when he established one of his own. He had previously bought 160 acres of land on sections 28 and 29, and had broken forty acres of land and built a substantial frame house. He has ever since made his dwelling on that homestead, and has from time to time invested his money in more land, till he now has nearly 700 acres of choice land under admirable tillage and capable of yielding large crops, and well supplied with the necessary buildings and all the appurtenances of a good farm. By judicious management he derives a handsome yearly income from its cultivation and from the fine stock that he raises.

Mr. Mundell was married Dec. 19, 1844, to Ruth Babb, who was born in Perry County, Ohio, and was a daughter of Joseph and Eleanor Babb. Three children blessed their pleasant married life: James, a resident of Cazenovia, who married Amelia Rogers, by whom he has had three children; Esther and Joseph. Mrs. Mundell departed this life June 1, 1854, while yet a young woman, leaving many warm friends to mourn the loss of one who possessed many excellent qualities of head and heart. Mr. Mundell was married to his present wife in 1860. Her maiden name was Maria Babb and she was the youngest sister of the first Mrs. Mundell. She has been twice married, her first husband being a Mr. Foster and she has one son by that marriage, Joseph Foster. She is a truly estimable woman, looks carefully after the wants of her household, and makes home comfortable and cozy.

For fifty-four years Mr. Mundell has been a resident of Woodford County, coming here in the prime and vigor of early manhood and casting in his lot with the pioneers that had preceded him, and during that long period of time he has gained and retained the honor and esteem of his fellow-citizens by his straightforward, manly course in all the affairs of life, and in the various departments that he has been called on to fill, as son, husband, father, neighbor, citizen. His record shows him to possess in a full degree those charaeteristics that go to make a man successful in whatever calling he is engaged, or he would not have attained his present prosperity. Politically, he is in full sympathy

with the Democrats, and as an intelligent citizen takes a deep interest in the welfare of his country. Religiously, both he and his wife are devoted members of the Baptist Church, he having connected with that denomination forty years.

SAMUEL MUNDELL, Jr., a native-born citizen of Woodford County, is extensively connected with its farming interests, and under his excellent management the fine homestead on sections 2 and 3, Metamora Township, that formerly belonged to his father, the late Abner Mundell, is kept up to the same high standard that it had attained while it was in possession of the latter. There is a handsome and commodious residence on the place, with substantial outbuildings, and all its appointments are first-class. The father was a well-known pioneer of Woodford County, one of its prominent farmers in his day, and he was intimately associated with its public life.

Our subject was born in Partridge Township, this county, Oct. 21, 1858, and comes of sterling stock, numbering among his ancestors some of the early settlers of Pennsylvania and Ohio. His paternal progenitors, of whom quite a long line is mentioned in his genealogical history, originated in Wales. The great-great-great-grandfather of our subject came to America from that country with his son John in colonial times, and located in Greene County, Pa., among its earliest pioneers. The father secured a patent to a large tract of land on Little Whitely Creek, and after building a rude cabin in the primeval forests that covered his claim, and leaving his son in charge of the property, he set out on his return to Wales with the intention of coming back again with the remaining members of his family, and founding a new home on American soil. The son waited his return in vain, never after hearing from him or any other member of the family left in the old home among the hills of Wales. He improved the land into a good farm whereon he passed the remainder of his life. His son Abner, great-grandfather of our subject, was born and reared on the old homestead on Little Whitely Creek, and in turn reared a family, of whom his son James was the grandfather of our subject. The great-grandfather of our subject learned the trade of a blacksmith, and also that of a wheelwright and buying 100 acres of land in Whitely Township, passed his last years in the home he built thereon. The grandfather of our subject learned the trade of a cooper and worked at it many years. In 1819 he moved to Ohio County, W. Va., and buying land there, built a log house in which his family made their home. In 1827 he traded that place for a tract of timber land, with a few acres cleared, in Wayne County, Ind., and went there with his family, the removal being made with a three-horse team, and the household goods were taken in the wagon. In a few months after his settlement in his new home he was taken sick with what proved to be a mortal illness, and in a few weeks his family was left without his protection. He was the father of eight children—Samuel, Abner, Mary, Simeon, Jane, Sarah, Eleanor, James. In 1831 the family moved to Illinois with teams, and after spending four years in Vermilion County, came to Woodford County, and located in Cazenovia Township. The grandmother of our subject, whose maiden name was Esther Jones, a daughter of Morgan and Mary Jones, spent her last years with her children in that township.

Abner Mundell, the father of our subject, was born in Whitely Township, Pa., Oct. 19, 1816, and he was a stalwart youth of nineteen years when he came to Woodford County with his mother in 1835. At that time the country was sparsely settled, deer, wolves and wild turkeys were plentiful, and an abundance of game enriched the larder of the pioneer settlers. He purchased a tract of timber land, and after building a log house, commenced to develop a farm. There were no railways in the country then, and Chicago, although a small place, was the principal market for some years, and he used to take his grain thither with teams, and on the return trip would bring home the family supplies. He cleared up quite a tract of land, and lived on it till 1862, when he sold it and bought 320 acres of land on sections 2 and 3 Metamora Township. A part of the land only was improved,

and a small frame house stood on the place. In the years of toil that followed he placed his land under admirable cultivation, erected a nice set of frame buildings, including a commodious frame house and a large barn with a stone basement. He continued to be an honored resident here until his death, which occurred Nov. 6, 1887. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, with a well balanced mind, and being well read, with a remarkable memory, he was a very interesting conversationalist. Such a man was looked up to as a wise counselor, and he was influential in public affairs. For several terms he was a member of the County Board of Supervisors, and for two years served as Associate Justice of the county. The maiden name of his wife, mother of our subject, was Maria Clingman, and she was a native of Scioto or Ross County, Ohio, born March 12, 1827, and now residing in Pasadena, Cal. Her father, John M. Clingman, was born in Northumberland County, Pa., a son of John Clingman, so far as known born in Pennsylvania, either of German parentage or ancestry. He moved from the Keystone State to Ohio, and was an early settler of both Ross and Scioto counties. There he carried on his occupation as a farmer, spending his last years in Ohio. The maternal grandfather of our subject was but a boy when his parents moved to the Buckeye State, and there he was reared and married and continued to reside till 1835, when he came to Illinois, and locating in Woodford County, was one of the first settlers of Partridge Township. The removal from Ohio was made with an ox team, and the family cooked and camped by the way. Mr. Clingman bought a tract of land which he improved, and on which he made his home for a few years before his death. He spent his last days in retirement at Cazenovia. When he first came here deer and other wild game were plenty, and as he had been used to hunting in Ohio, he enjoyed the pleasures of the chase here, and was one of the most expert hunters of his day. The maiden name of his wife, grandmother of our subject, was Margaret Levis. She was born in Northumberland County, Pa., and closed her life in Cazenovia.

There were ten children born to the parents of our subject, namely: James, John, Eli, Simeon, Abner, Washington, Margaret J., Samuel, William I., Jesse G. James died when eighteen months old. John has a farm in Metamora Township and is engaged in the mercantile business in Cazenovia. Simeon was born June 27, 1849, and was drowned in the Illinois River in August, 1870. Abner died when thirteen years old. Washington lives in Pasadena, Cal. Margaret married Stephen Smith of McLean County. William lives in San Diego, Cal., and Jesse in Pasedena, that State.

Samuel, the subject of this biographical review, was a child of three years when his parents came to this township, and he has ever since made his home on the homestead, which is now under his management. He received a substantial education in the public schools, and a thorough training in agriculture, so that he is a skilled and practical farmer, as is denoted by the appearance of his fine farm and its well tilled fields.

Mr. Mundell and Miss Mandy Benjamin were united in marriage in 1886, and in her he has found a true wife, who is devoted to his interests. She is also a native of Woodford County, and a daughter of Foster Benjamin who resides in Cazenovia Township.

In his life career Mr. Mundell has displayed wisdom, shrewdness and thrift in the management of his affairs, and is classed among the most capable representatives of his vocation in Metamora Township. He is well thought of in this community by the people who have known him as boy and man these many years, and in his dealings with his neighbors he is always kind and considerate.

LEVI P. MORSE. Metamora Township possesses no more worthy or highly respected citizen than this gentleman. The son of an honored pioneer of Woodford County, he now owns and is successfully managing the fine old homestead that his father developed from the wild prairies in the early days of the settlement of this part of the county. The subject of this biographical review was born in the town of Rochester, Windsor Co., Vt., April 7, 1821. His father, Capt. Parker

Morse, was a native of Massachusetts, born in the town of Chester July 12, 1774. His father, who bore the same name, was likewise a native of the old Bay State, and was a farmer, and a patriotic soldier in the Revolution. He was an early settler of Chester, where he passed his last years. The maiden name of his wife was Love Knowles. The father of our subject went to Antrim, N. H., when a young man, and while a resident there, was married to Miss Jane Langdon. In 1815 he settled in the town of Rochester, Vt., and buying a tract of improved land there, was engaged in farming it till 1835. In that year he sold his farm among the Vermont hills, and coming with his family to Illinois, located in that part of Tazewell County, now known as Woodford County. The removal hither was made with teams, and a part of the household goods were brought along. They came by the way of Canada and were six weeks on the road to Chicago. Joseph T., a brother of our subject, had come here the year before, and had entered a tract of land in what is now Metamora Township. But there being no buildings on the land the family moved into a vacant log cabin at Low Point, and the father at once commenced the erection of a frame house on his land. It was the first house built on the open prairie in this section of the country, and its inmates were noted for their generous hospitality, the latch string always being out, and friend or stranger who pulled it and lifted the latch, always found a warm welcome. At that time and for several years after, deer, wolves, wild turkeys and all sorts of game were plenty. There were no free schools here at the time, and in 1836 Mr. Morse, the Rev. James Owen, and Thomas Jones interested themselves in securing educational privileges for their children such as they themselves had enjoyed in their far off New England homes, and organizing a district, Mr. Morse's daughter, Love K., was employed to instruct the children of the pioneers who were gathered together in one room of a private house at Low Point, the district embracing a large territory. She also taught a part of the term at the timber two miles west of Low Point, and when she had completed the term her brother Joseph took the necessary papers and carried them to Springfield to draw the money. The State Treasurer said that he did not know that he had the right to pay out money for district schools, or for any other educational institutions besides colleges and academies. But upon consultation with others he paid the money without further demur. This was, so far as known, the first free school ever taught in Illinois. In politics, the father was in his younger days a Whig, and he afterwards became an ardent Abolitionist, and his home was one of the stations in the underground railroad by which many poor slaves found their way to freedom in Canada. He was one of the leading members of the Congregational Church, and being one of the earliest of that denomination to settle here, meetings for religious service were held in his house, and he was one of the Deacons of the church for many years. He was a man of marked decision of character, and of an unselfish, self-sacrificing disposition, and freely used his means to help any worthy cause along. By the unswerving integrity of an upright life he proved the worth of his religion. His life was prolonged far beyond the Scriptural allotment, his death occurring at the old homestead that he had redeemed from the prairies in 1862, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. The mother of our subject was born in Beverly, Mass., and her father was a sea captain, and commanded a vessel that was lost on one of its voyages about the time of the birth of his daughter. Her mother married a second time, a man by the name of Starritt, and removed to New Hampshire, and settled in Franeistown. The mother of our subject died on the home farm Dec. 10, 1853, aged seventy-four years and two months. Eight of the children born of her marriage were reared to maturity, namely—Elizabeth K., Mark, Parker, Love K., Jane, Joseph T., John M., Levi P., but only the two younger ones are now living.

He of whom we write was fourteen years old when his parents brought him to this county. He drove a two horse team the entire distance from Vermont, and slept in the wagon every night. Chicago was then a small, insignificant place, with but little prospect of attaining its present size and importance as the second city in the Union. There were no railways in Illinois for some years after that, and consequently the markets were not very

accessible, and for two seasons the wheat crop had to be drawn to Chicago 125 miles distant, the round trip consuming seven days, and our subject used when he went on the journey to take provisions with him and camp on the way at noon and night. He was never separated from his parents till their death, making his home with them even after his marriage, and he now owns the old homestead of 160 acres. It is an attractive place, with neat buildings, well-cultivated fields, and all the necessary appurtenances for carrying on farming in the proper manner.

Mr. Morse and Miss Mary A. Parminter were married Oct. 16, 1845, and they have six children living to bless their declining years—Joel R., Eliza R., John H., Milo M., Leland E., Henry M. Joel R. married Mabel Whitmire, and they have one child, Hazel L. Mrs. Morse was born in Devonshire, England, June 24, 1823. Her father, John R. Parminter,, was also a native of that shire, a son of James Parminter, likewise of English birth, who is supposed to have spent his entire life in Devonshire. Mrs. Morse's father was married in Devonshire, and became a practical gardener, following that vocation till 1845, when he came to America with his family, and located in Metamora Township, where he engaged in farming and spent the remainder of his life. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy Stribling, and she was a native of Devonshire. Her father, John Stribling, was born in the same shire, and there carried on the occupation of farming after he arrived at years of discretion till his decease. Mrs. Morse's mother died at the home of her son in this township.

During a residence here of more than half a century Mr. Morse has displayed in every department of life, as a husband and father, as a neighbor and citizen, the same upright, straight-forward manner, and has led such a life as elevates the citizenship of a community. He is ever found on the side of the right on all the great moral questions that agitate the public mind, and in ante-bellum times, like his father he was a pronounced Abolitionist, and as an agent of the underground railway he befriended many a poor, grateful slave, and aided him in getting from his father's home to stations beyond, and so on to liberty in Canada. He cast his first vote for James C. Burney, and on the formation of the Republican party he joined its ranks, and became an enthusiastic supporter of its policy. Now he is as strong an advocate of the Prohibition party. Religiously, he and his good wife are members of the Congregational Church, and have cheerfully cast in their lot with the members of the Union Church at Metamora.

WILLIAM BILLINGER, who is engaged in general farming on section 3, Palestine Township, was born in Pittsburg, Pa., on the 1st day of April, 1819, during a temporary sojourn of his parents in that city. On the paternal side, he is of Irish descent, and on the maternal side is descended from an old New England family. His father, also named William, was a native of Ireland, but in early manhood bade good-by to his native land and emigrated to America. He settled in New England, where he worked at his trade of a mechanic, which he had learned in the old country. He followed that business for some time, and while there residing, became acquainted with and wedded Miss Mary Smith, whose family was of New England origin. They began their domestic life in New Jersey, where their marriage was celebrated, and while there residing two children were born unto them. The parents then resolved to make Ohio their future home and started for that State, but stopped for a time in Pittsburg, Pa., where the the birth of our subject occurred. When he was but ten days old the father was accidently drowned in the Ohio River at that city, and he was thus deprived of all paternal care and watchfulness. Being joined by a company of relatives, the mother with her three little children, later continued her journey to Ohio, locating in Cincinnati, where she resided for a few years. The family then became residents of Warren County, and thence removed to Preble County, where our subject was educated. He was reared to farm life and attained his majority while residing in Preble County. In 1841, he was joined in wedlock with Mrs. Sarah A.

(McManus) Brower, a native of Butler County, Ohio, born Oct. 1, 1819.

The parents of Mrs. Billinger were J. C. and Catherine (Miley) McManus, the former of Scotch-Irish descent, the latter of Holland origin. Their marriage took place in Pennsylvania, but for a number of years they resided in Butler County, Ohio, and later removed to Preble County. Mr. McManus was an attorney, and during the greater part of his life actively engaged in practice, but during his later years he abandoned that profession and turned his attention to farming. He died at the age of sixty-six years, and his wife departed this life at the advanced age of ninety years. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their consistent lives won them many friends. Mrs. Billinger was a mere child when her parents removed to Preble County. Her early life was there passed and on attaining to womanhood she became the wife of Daniel Brower, who was accidently killed about six months later.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Billinger was celebrated on Nov. 7, 1841, after which they began their domestic life in Preble County, where they made their home until 1857, when they started for the unsettled prairies of Illinois. They traveled over the unbroken country in a covered wagon, camping out at night, and at length reached McLean County, where they located. Mr. Billinger engaged in farming in White Oak Township until his removal to Woodford County, where he has since made his home. He is now the owner of a fine farm of eighty acres on section 3, Palestine Township, where he has made his home since his arrival. His land is all under cultivation, and upon the farm may be found all the necessary improvements. Its owner is a man of good business ability, and under his able management his land has brought a rich return for the care and labor which he bestows upon it. His success is due entirely to his own efforts of industry, perseverance, and enterprise, assisted by his wife, and is certainly well-merited.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Billinger, ten children have been born, two of whom are now deceased—Genevera and one who died in infancy. Those yet living are, John C., who first married Eliza Miller, and after her death was again married, and now living in Wichita, Kan.; Francis L. married Candace Yerion, and is now engaged in farming in Phelps County, Neb.; S. M., who wedded Miss Sarah Bowman, is a resident farmer of Palestine Township; Sarah A., is one of the able and efficient teachers of Phelps County, Neb.; Laura is the wife of Thomas S. Ellis, whose sketch appears on another page of this work; Eva A. is still at home; Julia C. is the wife of Frank C. Newton, a farmer residing in Blue Springs, Neb.; Emma B., a teacher of recognized ability, still makes her home with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Billinger attend the Presbyterian Church, of which body the lady is a member. They have reared their children to habits of industry and honesty, and all are now useful men and women in the various communities where they reside. In political sentiment Mr. Billinger is a Democrat, and has held various township offices of trust. As a citizen, he is public spirited and progressive, and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

WALTER C. RAMSEY, one of the leading and enterprising young farmers of Woodford County, residing on section 15, Montgomery Township, has passed his entire life on the farm where he still makes his home. He was born on the 5th day of February, 1852, and is the only son of James and Ann (Harding) Ramsey, prominent citizens of this community. His father is numbered among the honored pioneers of the county, and is represented on another page of this volume.

Our subject was reared to manhood on the old homestead, and received a liberal education. He pursued the rudimentary studies in the schools of the neighborhood, and completed his school life by a two years' course in Eureka College. On attaining his majority he left the parental roof to make his own way in the world, and in 1875 led to the marriage altar Miss Irene Osburn, the wedding taking place in Tazewell County. Mrs. Ramsey, who is a refined and accomplished lady, was born

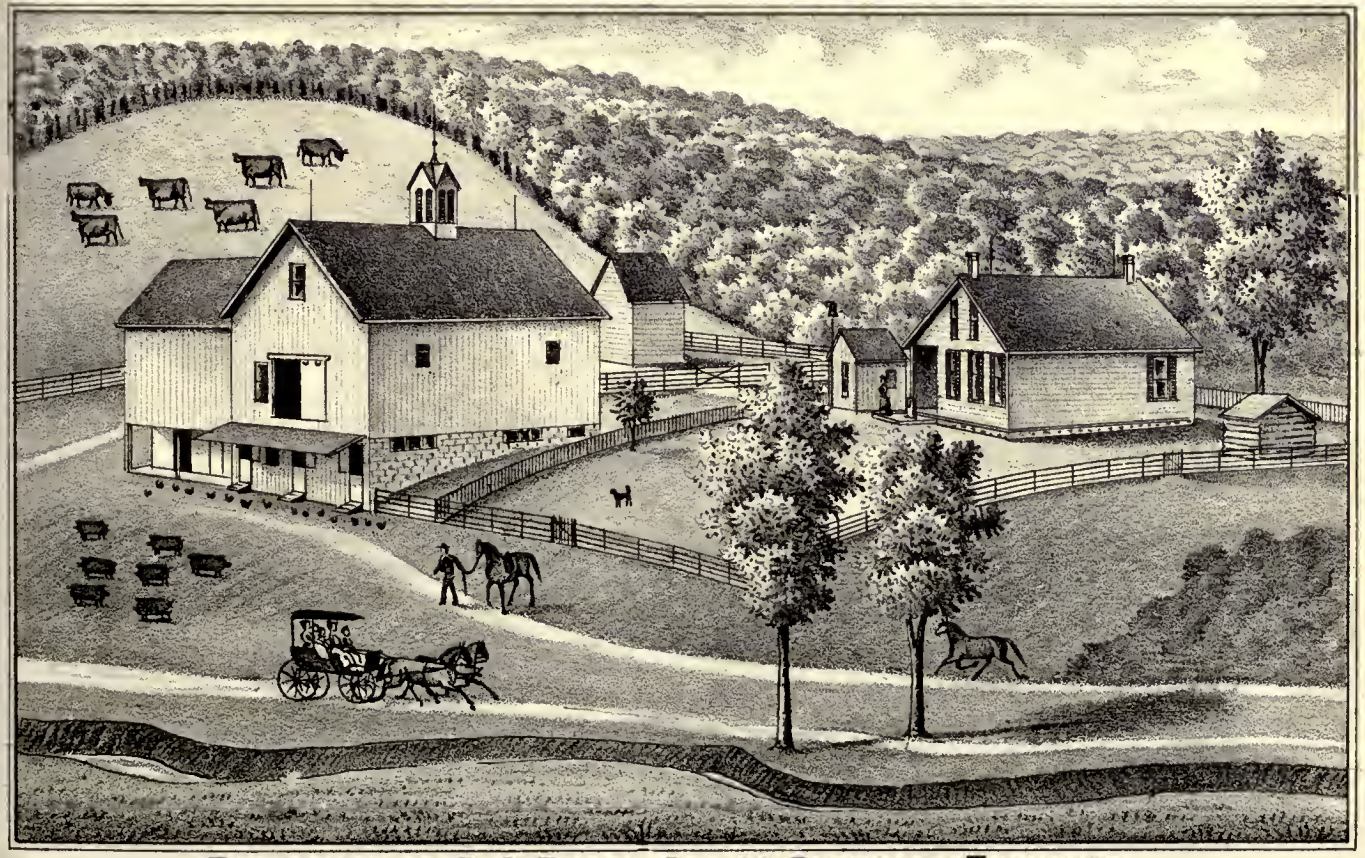
in Deer Creek Township, Tazewell County, in 1855, and is a daughter of David and Jane Osburn, leading citizens of the community in which they make their home. Her father is an extensive farmer, and is numbered among the early settlers of Tazewell County, he having entered the land which constitutes his homestead from the government. An interesting family of three children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey, and are bright, intelligent little ones, of whom the parents are justly proud. They are named respectively Anna Maria, Emmor and Ernest Lester.

Mr. Ramsey has been very successful in his business career, and is numbered among the prosperous farmers of Woodford County. He owns 180 acres of valuable land, and in addition operates a large farm of 300 acres. He is also engaged quite extensively in the breeding of fine blooded stock, and has done much toward introducing a better grade of cattle into the county. He possesses thrift and enterprise, and if health and life are spared him, will no doubt become a wealthy farmer. In public affairs he also takes great interest, and is ever ready to aid in the advancement of those enterprises which are calculated to promote the general welfare. He is an intelligent citizen, well informed on all the leading questions of the day, and in politics is a stalwart advocate of Republican principles, having supported that great national organization, the Republican party, since attaining his majority. He and his estimable wife have many warm friends throughout the community, are highly respected by all who know them, and are ranked among the best citizens.

JOSEPH BELSLY a prominent young farmer, occupies one of the finest farms in Worth Township, which has been in the Belsly family for many years, having been reclaimed by the grandfather of our subject, one of the earliest settlers of the county. Our subject was born in Deer Creek Township, Tazewell Co., Ill., Dec. 3, 1861. His father, Christian Belsly, was born in Partridge Township, Woodford County, in June, 1836. His father, Joseph Belsly, was a native of France, born at Hof Helleecourt, May 8, 1812. He came to America when a young man, and making his way to Ohio found employment at various kinds of work, remaining there two years and then journeying farther westward till he arrived in that part of Tazewell now included in Woodford County, then a wild, desolate, sparsely settled region. He made claim to a tract of goverment land on Partridge Creek, and after residing there for a time, sold, and removed to the uplands of Worth Township, where he purchased a tract of wild land, improved a large farm, and made his home till his death, Dec. 24, 1872. When he settled here the greater part of Illinois was uninhabited, and, in fact, unsurveyed, and later was sold by the Government for $1.25 an acre. The locality where Peoria now stands was known as Ft. Clark, there being but a few log houses there. Over the broad prairies and through the timber, deer, wolves and other kinds of game roamed at will. He lived to see this section of the country well settled and wealthy, and did much toward bringing about the great change. He came here poor, but at the time of his death was one of the richest farmers in the county. His remains lie buried in the family cemetery on the home farm, and he will ever be cherished in memory as one of the noblest pioneers of the Prairie State.

The father of the subject of this sketch was an only child. He resided with his parents till his marriage, and then lived in Marshall County two years. Following that he resided one year in Partridge Township, and then removed to Tazewell County, and purchased a farm in Deer Creek Township, and has made his home there continuously since. He has added to his first purchase and now owns a fine farm of 380 acres of well-improved land with a good set of frame buildings. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Mary Schertz. She was born in Butler County, Ohio, her father John Schertz, a native of Germany, having spent his last years in that county. His wife, the grandmother of our subject, came to Illinois after her husband's death and spent her last years with her daughter. There were nine children born to the parents of our subject, namely: Kate, Joseph, John R., Samuel, Rose, Maggie, Barbara, Frank and Emma.

RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH BELSLY, SEC. 5. WORTH TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF E. C. ENGEL, SEC. 33. PARTRIDGE TOWNSHIP.

He of whom we write was the oldest son of the family. He was educated in the public schools, and on the home farm gained a thorough practical knowledge of farming in all its branches, continuing to live with his parents till his marriage, when he located on his grandfather's homestead, which he now owns and occupies.

He married in 1882, Miss Ida Foster becoming his wife. She was born in Deer Creek Township, Tazewell Co., Ill., a daughter of Michael and Eliza Foster, her father a native of Germany and her mother of Ohio. Mr. and Mr. Belsly have two children, Harvey and Maurice.

Few of the younger members of the farming community of Woodford County have brighter prospects before them than our subject, as he possesses in his enterprising spirit, good business habits and straightforward integrity, the elements of success. He is an enthusiastic Democrat in his politics, and adheres loyally to his party, firmly believing that when it is in power, the best interests of the country are subserved. The gracious young wife who presides over his charming home is a member of the United Brethren Church, and in her daily walk shows herself to be a sincere Christian.

We present elsewhere in this volume a lithographic engraving of the pleasant abode of Mr. and Mrs. Belsly, which we trust will be their home for many long and happy years to come.

EDWARD C. ENGEL. The young farmers of Woodford County have in this wide-awake, practical gentleman, a representative who, by sheer force of character and wise management of his interests, has already placed himself among the solid, substantial members of the agricultural community of Partridge Township. He is managing with signal success one of the choicest farms in this section of the county, beautifully located on section 33, where he and his amiable wife have a very attractive and happy home, represented elsewhere in this work, with its fair surroundings, by a fine lithographic engraving.

Our subject was born in Montgomery Township, this county, Nov. 11, 1858, to Christian and Susanna (Miller) Engel, both natives of Germany, the father born near Frankfort-on-the-Rhine. He was reared in his native land, and there learned the trade of a weaver. When a young man he left home and friends in the Fatherland and sought his fortunes on the wild prairies of the Great West in the United States of America. After his arrival here, having but little means, he worked out by the day or month in Woodford County until he could obtain the wherewithal to become independent. That was in the year 1856, and he afterward invested his earnings in a tract of partly improved land in McLean County. He now owns two farms containing between them 160 acres, both being under admirable tillage, amply supplied with neat, substantial buildings, good machinery and everything needful for conducting agriculture profitably. He is an honest, upright man, a hard worker, and is considered a useful citizen in his community, where he is justly held in respect. His wife, the mother of our subject, departed this life in Woodford County in 1861, and her death was a sad blow to her family, to whom she was devoted. There were four children born of that marriage, of whom the following three are living—Edward C., John H. and Jacob.

The subject of this sketch was very young when his father settled in Dry Grove Township, McLean County, where he was reared to man's estate, and in the public schools gleaned an excellent education that has been of service to him in after life. He lived with his father until he was twenty-two years old, giving him valuable service in the management of his farming interests. He then started out into the world on his own account, and was employed by the day or month until his marriage, when he rented his father's farm for a term of three years. At the expiration of that time he came to Woodford County and settled on the farm where he now resides. There are a good set of conveniently arranged frame buildings on it, including a neat and comfortable dwelling, and everything about the place is kept in the most orderly manner. Mr. Engel is a skillful, intelligent farmer, and brings a clear mind and sound common sense to bear upon his work. His land is under fine culti-

vation and yields him large harvests in repayment for his care and toil, and his stock is of the finest grades.

In the month of February, 1881, Mr. Engel's marriage with Miss Katie Belsly took place. She was born on the farm where she now makes her home, and is a daughter of the well-known Christian and Mary Belsly. She is descended from good pioneer stock. Her father was born in Partridge Township, of which his father was one of the original settlers. The latter was born in Hof Hellecourt, France, May 8, 1802. He came to America in 1828 and spent the ensuing two years in Ohio. He was then a poor man, and though the land in Ohio was cheap at that time, its price was beyond his means, and in order to secure a home he came to Illinois to avail himself of the low prices at which the Government was selling land to the frontiersmen. He located in what is now Woodford County, this section of the country then being on the Western frontier, and the few white settlements were confined to the growths of forests along the streams. Deer and other kinds of wild beasts roamed here freely, and there were scarcely any evidences of the coming civilization that should transform these broad, lonely prairies into smiling harvest fields, where food was to be raised for the millions on either side of the globe. Land was for sale by the Government at $1.25 an acre, and Mr. Belsly made a claim to a tract lying on the bank of Partridge Creek. After residing there for a time he bought a place on the uplands of Worth Township and made his home there until his death, which occurred Dec. 24, 1872, when he rounded out a life that was honorable to himself and had been of great service to Woodford County, and its memory is cherished with reverence by his descendants. He was an intelligent witness of the entire development of the county almost from the early days of its occupancy by the whites, and not only that, but he contributed in no small degree to its present prosperous condition. He accumulated a handsome property, and at the time of his death was quite wealthy. His education was limited, but he was a very intelligent man, possessing good judgment and untiring energy as a farmer, and stock-raiser, and had few equals in those respects in the county; he was well posted on the best methods of farming, and was the first man to raise clover in this part of the country. He is now sleeping the sleep of the just in the family cemetery near his old home. Mrs. Engel's father was reared and educated in his native county, and after marriage resided on Crow Creek in Marshall County, two years. He subsequently purchased a farm in Deer Creek Township, Tazewell County, and removing to that part of the State is still residing there. The maiden name of Mrs. Engel's mother was Mary Schertz. She was born in Ohio, and was a daughter of Valentine Schertz, a native of Germany.

The attractive home of our subject and his wife is the center of true hospitality, where every guest is made to feel at ease by the pleasing, frank and charming welcome of the hostess and by the genial, friendly, courteous manner of the host. Their happy wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Eva Lou, Frank Delbert and Ameda Emma.

Mr. Engel is regarded with much favor by the people who have watched his course since he became a resident of Partridge Township, and he is considered a valuable acquisition to the citizenship of this community, making its interests his own and promoting its material, moral and social welfare as much as is possible. A young man of influence for good among his associates.

CHARLES J. VAN PELT, station agent of the Illinois Central Railway at Minonk, is one of the oldest employes of that company, having been in their service since March 20, 1870. He was born in Highland County, Ohio, Feb. 16, 1834, being a son of Jacob and Agnes (Johnson) Van Pelt, both natives of Ohio. His paternal ancestors were originally from Holland, but have resided in the United States for several generations, settling in the colonies prior to the Revolutionary War. In their religious views they were Quakers.

Isaac Van Pelt, grandfather of our subject, was born in Bucks County, Pa. He became a farmer

and moved to Virginia, thence to Belmont County, Ohio, where he was among the original settlers, and as such assisted in clearing away the heavy timber from the site now occupied by the city of Zanesville. He there spent the remainder of his life, dying at the venerable age of ninety years. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Ellis, were born four children, Jacob, Ellis, Mary and William R. Jacob, father of our subject, was reared a farmer, and marrying in Highland County, Ohio, subsequently removed to Illinois and settled near Bloomington, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1865, when he removed to Normal, where his death occurred at the age of fifty-nine years. He was a strong anti-slavery man, and always expressed his views on that subject very freely. He was a warm supporter of Henry Clay, and in the latter years of his life voted the Republican ticket. His wife survived him. They reared a family of five children, namely: Charles J.; Isaac N., a resident of Lamar, Mo.; Thomas and Garratt died in childhood; Rosetta B., wife of Jason D. Shipley, of Normal, Ill.

The subject of this brief biographical record was reared on his father's farm and attended the district schools, obtaining a substantial education, and afterward taught school a few terms, and for a while was employed as a clerk in a store. He came with the family to Illinois in 1858, and for some time assisted on the farm. The most important step in his life was taken three years later when he took as a life companion a most estimable lady Miss Helen M. Trowbridge. She was born in New Haven, Conn., a daughter of Isaac Trowbridge, a sea captain, who, in a shipwreck on the Atlantic Ocean, lost all of his property. When she was a small child her parents removed from Connecticut to Louisiana and settled in Franklin. Several years later she visited relatives in McLean County, this State, and at that time formed the acquaintance of our subject which afterwards resulted in a most happy union, their nuptials having been celebrated Jan. 23, 1861. To them has come one child, Isaac Newman. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Van Pelt settled in Normal, where he at first dealt in coal and engaged in teaming. He identified himself with the best interests of the place and served for two years as Township Collector. In March, 1870, our subject entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railway Company, as station agent at Normal, and remained there until July 27, 1874, when he came to Minonk to accept his present position as station agent in this city.

In all of his duties he has proved faithful and trustworthy, winning the entire confidence of the company by whom he is employed, and his gentlemanly and courteous manners make him popular among the patrons of the railway. It is a matter worthy of recording that during the entire years of his services with the company, our subject has not lost one day's time. In politics Mr. Van Pelt is a firm Republican, but the duties of his present position prevent his taking any active part in public affairs. He is a man of good financial abilities, and has shown excellent judgment in his investments in real estate. He owns 160 acres of land in Kansas, eighty acres in Mississippi, and a very pleasant home in Minonk, where he and his amiable wife delight in entertaining their many friends.

MRS. MARTHA M. (MORSE) CHEEDLE is the widow of the late Orin Cheedle, a former intelligent, prosperous pioneer of Woodford County, who aided in its development by reclaiming and beautifying a good farm from the wild prairies where now stands Metamora Township. In this attractive home that he built up with the cheerful and able assistance of his wife, she is living with two of her sons, who are successfully managing the old homestead on which they were born and bred.

Mrs. Cheedle is of sterling New England stock, and is herself a native of that part of the country. She is the daughter of one of Woodford County's well-known early pioneers who is distinguished in its history as having erected the first house, on the present site of Metamora, and he assisted in platting the town and was appointed its first postmaster. Coming here when a small child in the very early days of the settlement of the county,

Mrs. Cheedle has been a witness of its entire development, and she can remember when deer and wolves used to roam freely across the spot where the flourishing city of Metamora now stands.

Our subject was born in Rochester, Windsor Co., Vt., July 9, 1832. Her father, Deacon Parker Morse, was born in Antrim, N. H., Jan. 6, 1803, and was the son of Capt. Parker and Jane (Langdon) Morse, for whose history see sketch of L. P. Morse. Mrs. Cheedle's father was twelve years old when his parents removed to Vermont, and there he grew up and married, Rosanna Childs becoming his wife. She was born in Sharon, Vt., and was a daughter of David and Ruth Childs. Mr. and Mrs. Morse continued to reside among the hills of Vermont till 1835, when they emigrated with their family to the distant wilds of Illinois. They started on their long and tedious journey with a team to Whitehall, Vt., and thence proceeded by canal to Buffalo, where they embarked on a boat for a voyage on the lakes to Chicago, and were on the water eighteen days. From Chicago they drove with a team to Elk Grove, and spent a few months there, and in the fall of the year they pushed on to that part of Tazewell County now embraced in Woodford County. Mr. Morse found a vacant log cabin one mile west of the present site of Metamora, and in that humble abode he and his family spent the following winter. In the spring he built a frame house on the site of Metamora, which was the first house ever erected within the present corporate limits of the city. When the town was platted in the month of June his wife entertained the surveyors at dinner. At that time the town was named Hanover, and when the postoffice was established Mr. Morse was appointed postmaster. His wife took a magazine in those days called the "Mother's Magazine," which was the only periodical taken in the county at that time. He invested in lots and continued to live in the village two years, and at the expiration of that time moved his house and barn to his land, three miles northeast of town, and at once entered upon the pioneer work of improving a farm and met with good success in his attempts, and built up a comfortable home, and laid up a competence. His useful life was rounded out in March, 1877, and that of his wife in July, 1880, and they are now peacefully sleeping the last sleep side by side. He was a man of high standing in this community, noted for his strict integrity and moral principles. He was a devout member of the Congregational Church, was numbered among its most zealous workers, and assisted materially in building the church. He was an abolitionist, a true friend of the poor slaves, and his house was a station of the underground railroad, and he aided more than 200 of the poor creatures to obtain their freedom. Three children were born to him and his wife, namely; Martha M. (our subject), Joseph O. and Mary O., twins. Joseph is living on the old homestead. Mary married Benjamin O'Brien of Groveland, Tazewell County, where she died Feb. 27, 1889.

Our subject was three years old when her parents brought her to this county, and here she grew to womanhood among the pioneer scenes of the early days of the settlement of this part of the country, and gained her education in the earliest schools that were ever taught here. She resided with her parents till her marriage to Orin Cheedle, which occurred in October, 1858.

Mr. Cheedle was born in Stockbridge, Windsor Co., Vt., Sept. 6, 1822. His parents, Timothy and Mary (Snow) Cheedle, were natives of Vermont, and there spent their entire lives. He received a sound education in his native state, and was engaged in teaching school there for several years, following that vocation in the summer seasons. He was twice married. He was first wedded to Miss Eliza Lincoln, a native of Vermont, their marriage taking place in 1847. He bought a farm in Metamora Township, but lived on it only a portion of the time, as he was engaged in teaching school, as was his wife also, who was a school teacher before her marriage. His first wife died in 1848, and he then went back to his old home among the green hills of Vermont. He lived there for a while and then returned to Woodford County, and at the time of his marriage with our subject was located on his farm, where his family now resides. In the busy years that followed he improved it greatly, erected substantial frame buildings, planted an orchard, and beautified the lawn by setting out ornamental trees, shrubbery and flowers. This

pleasant home remained his residence till his untimely death Nov. 29, 1872 brought to a close a life honorable to himself, and such as to cast credit on the community of which he was a greatly respected and influential citizen. He was a man of scholarly tastes, bringing a well-trained mind to bear on his work, and his relations with all about him were most pleasant and friendly. In his domestic life he was peculiarly happy, and in their charming home, four sons were born to him and his wife—Joel W., Parker G., Harry L. and Edward M. Stanton. Joel married Mary E. Kindig, and resides in Kearney, Neb.; they have two children, Mary M. and Owen. Parker is engaged in farming in Buffalo County, Neb.; Harry and Edward live with their mother and manage the farm.

Mrs. Cheedle is a worthy example of the brave, self-sacrificing, hard-working women of pioneer days who walked steadily by the side of father, husband or brother through all the trials and hardships of life on the frontier, and encouraged and substantially aided them in their great struggle to open up and develop the country. All honor to such women. May their part in building up the great West receive just recognition from the historian and biographer, and when they have passed away from the scenes of their life-work, may their memories be cherished and reverenced equally with fathers, husbands and brothers.

PLEASANT H. BIGGER. For a period of twenty-seven years Mr. Bigger has been familiarly known to the people of El Paso Township, where he is accounted one of its most prominent and successful farmers and stock-raisers, owning 320 acres of land, comprising some of the choicest soil in Woodford County. His homestead is finely located on section 21, and in all its appointments indicates the supervision of a man of more than ordinary intelligence, industry and enterprise. The land is remarkably fertile and watered by Wolf Creek, a cool, clear stream, which seldom fails at any season. Other natural advantages add to the value of the farm, and these have been enhanced by the thorough cultivation it has received and its general good management.

The subject of this sketch came with his father to McLean County, Ill., in 1836, and has been a resident of that and Woodford County, since that time. The face of the country then for miles around presented an unbroken wilderness, over which the foot of a white man had seldom passed. The few settlers who had ventured hither were located near the timber, as the prairie was considered practically worthless.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light in Owen County, Ind., July 21, 1820, and is the son of James Bigger, a native of Ohio. The paternal grandfather was John Bigger, who came of Irish ancestry and is believed to have been born in Virginia. He spent his last years in Indiana, dying when quite aged. James, the father of our subject, was reared a farmer's boy, and was first married in Ohio to a Miss Stewart, by whom he had four children, all of whom died in Ohio, as did also their mother.

After the death of his first wife, James Bigger emigrated to Owen County, Ind., where he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hart. This lady was the daughter of Phillip Hart, who settled in that county at an early day, and laid out the town of Spencer, near which he spent the latter part of his life, dying when ripe in years. After the birth of four children by his second wife, James Bigger pushed on further westward, and settled in Gridley Township, McLean Co., Ill., where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. The father died in the spring of 1841, when fifty years old. He fought at the battle of Tippecanoe, and was at one time Captain of an Indiana company of troops under Col. Bartholomew, the regiment being commanded by Gen. Harrison. Col. Bartholomew and Capt. Bigger were warm personal friends, and the Colonel died one year prior to the death of Mr. Bigger. The latter, as may be supposed, was a Whig politically, and a warm supporter of Gen. Harrison for the presidency. His second wife survived him a number of years, dying in 1863, aged sixty-six. Both were members in good standing of the Baptist Church.

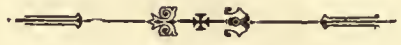
Our subject was the eldest of six children—three

sons and three daughters—all of whom lived to be men and women. He remained under the home roof until reaching man's estate, and assisted in building the first school-house in the western part of McLean County, within which later, he pursued his studies. It was a log structure, with slabs for seats and desks, with puncheon floor, and the chimney built outside of earth and sticks. The school was conducted in the winter season alone, all the children of those times, and especially the boys, being required to make themselves useful on the farm during the summer.

Jan. 5, 1840, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Bell. This lady was born in Susquehanna County, Pa., and is the daughter of parents who were likewise natives of the Keystone State. They died when she was quite young, and she came to the West with friends. She became the mother of two children, and survived her marriage only five years, dying at the early age of thirty-three, at their home in Gridley Township, McLean County. Their son James married Miss Amanda Glimps, and is a resident of Kappa; Sarah is the wife of Henry Hanken, a hotel proprietor of York, Neb.

Mr. Bigger was a second time married in McLean County to Mrs. Sarah (Fuhrman) Scott, who who was born in Pennsylvania, Feb. 4, 1833. Her parents were also natives of that State, whence they removed to Ohio, where their daughter Sarah, upon reaching her womanhood, was married to David Scott. Three children were born of this union, and Mr Scott died in Ohio. His widow later came to Illinois, joining her parents, who had preceded her, and settled in Woodford County. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children: Ida M. is the wife of Adam Vogt, and they live on a farm in El Paso Township; Laura remains at home with her parents; Judson married Miss Miss Milly Grinder, and they live on a farm in El Paso Township; Alice, Martha, Lott and Rose remain under the parental roof.

Mr. Bigger, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, as also do his sons. His property has been accumulated by downright hard work and good management, assisted by the counsel and economy of his estimable wife. They have a pleasant and attractive home, which is represented in this volume by a fine lithographic engraving, and within its pleasant walls is gathered a family of bright, intelligent children, held in high esteem by their neighbors and acquaintances.



FRED. T. WAITE, senior member of the firm of Waite & Son, has been for some years conducting a prosperous hardware trade at El Paso, of which he has been a resident since 1883. The house is located on Front Street, and they carry a well selected assortment of everything in their line of trade, receiving the patronage of a large portion of the people of the city. Mr. Waite came to this county in 1856, and first purchased eighty acres of land in Panola Township, on its eastern line, where he founded a home and where he lived until his removal to El Paso. In connection with farming he made a specialty of Norman horses and accumulated a comfortable property. He has a good home in the city, and is recognised as one of its most enterprising and useful citizens.

The subject of this notice was born in Hartford, Vt., Aug. 24, 1824. He was orphaned by the death of both parents when very young, and was taken into the home of strangers, by whom he was reared and partly educated, and thus lost nearly all trace of his family connections. He was brought up on a farm, but upon reaching his majority entered Norwich (Vt.) Military Academy, where he remained three years, but finally abandoned the idea of a military life; subsequently he engaged in teaching during the winter season while he farmed in summer.

Young Waite saved what he could of his earnings during those years, and finally emigrated to Tarrytown, N. Y., where he secured the position of ticket agent for the Hudson River Railroad. At that place he was married to Miss Susan Hazen, who was born in Hartford, Vt., in September, 1825, and was of New England ancestry. She was reared and educated in her native place, and for some years was engaged as a teacher in the public schools. She possessed rare musical talent,

and was a fine singer, and Mr. Waite also being fond of music and possessing a good voice, they spent many pleasant hours together in this recreation. The happy home circle was invaded by death and the mother passed away Aug. 12, 1883, at the age of fifty-eight years. She had been an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and was a lady greatly beloved by the entire community.

By his first wife our subject became the father of six children, two of whom, Maryetta and Frank H., are deceased, the former dying when quite young and the latter when a promising young man of twenty-two years. He had been educated in music in the Chicago Musical College, and was a successful teacher of that art. There was apparently a bright future before him, and his untimely death was a severe blow to his family. Of the surviving children, Emma is the wife of Walter Bennett, a prominent attorney of El Paso; Lilly married Harry Jessop, who is a dentist by profession, and they are at present (July, 1889) in Arizona. Azro H. is the partner of his father, in the hardware trade, and is still unmarried. He is a capable young business man, temperate and upright, and bids fair to make for himself a fine record in the the business and social circles of his community. Fred. H., a dentist by profession, is in Phoenix, Arizona.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married in Lebanon, N. H., was formerly Mrs. Melvina (Howard) Hazen. She was born in Pomfret, Vt., in 1835, and is the daughter of Seth and Eliza (Lamberton) Howard, an old New England family of the Green Mountain State, who lived on a farm and there spent their entire lives, the mother passing away in 1843 and the father surviving until 1882. Mrs. Melvina Waite remained with her father after the death of her mother, which occurred when she was a young girl of fourteen years, and was first married to Mr. F. S. Hazen. They began life on a farm in Vermont, and Mr. Hazen died when forty-eight years old. One son born of this marriage, Fred A., died at the age of twenty-one years. He was possessed of a bright intellect, and many hopes had been built up by his mother in connection with his future career. The two surviving children of this marriage are twins, Maude E. and May B. The former is a stenographer at De Kalb, this State, in the employ of the Barb Wire Company, and the latter remains at home with her mother.

Mr. Waite has been an Elder in the Presbyterian Church for the last five years, while his estimable wife finds her religious home with the Congregationalists. Our subject has held some of the local offices, and is now Treasurer of the El Paso Agricultural Board, which was organized in 1881, and of which he is one of the founders. Politically he was in early life a member of the old Whig party, and since its abandonment has given his cordial support to the Republicans.

S. S. ROBINSON is a fine representative of the sons of the pioneers of Woodford County, who, reared within its limits, have stepped to the front to take their part in sustaining and extending its material prosperity, and making it one of the richest agricultural centres in this section of the country. Our subject is actively and extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising in Metamora Township, where he owns one of the largest and best managed farms in the locality. The land is under a high state of cultivation, the improvements are of the best, with all the appointments of a model farm, including a neat, roomy set of frame buildings, and all needful machinery, everything about the place betokening the presence of a master hand and mind.

Our subject was born in the town of Woodstock, Champaign Co., Ohio, Nov. 1, 1846. In tracing the family history back, it has been ascertained that he is a lineal descendant of the learned and able John Robinson, that pious minister who led the Pilgrims from England to Holland in 1608, there to seek the religious freedom denied them in the mother country. He was educated at the College of Corpus Christi, Cambridge, receiving a fellowship there in 1598, which he resigned in 1604. During that time he had commenced preaching at Norwich, and in 1608 went with his devoted

band of followers to Leyden, Holland, and in 1609 to Amsterdam. He aided in planning the establishment of a colony on American soil, and there is a touching picture given in history, of the good man kneeling with his little flock of Pilgrims on the sands and earnestly commending them to the care of God. and imparting to them wise words of counsel and hope as they were about to embark on their perilous voyage to an unknown country, where they desired to found new homes and secure the privilege of worshipping their Maker as heart and conscience dictated. It was the worthy minister's intention to follow with the remainder of the church, those that had come to America in the Mayflower, but he was unavoidably detained in Holland, and his noble, self-sacrificing life was closed in that country in 1625. His son Isaac came to America in 1631, and after living in Plymouth, Mass. awhile, resided in turn in Scituate, R. I., Falmouth and Barnstable, Mass., and finally closed his earthly pilgrimage on the island of Martha's Vineyard. His son, Peter, was the next in line, and he located in the town of Scotland, Windham Co., Conn., about 1723, and there spent his last years. His son, Peter, came next in order, and he was born about 1697, and died in the aforementioned town of Scotland. After him came his son Experience, who spent his entire life in Windham County, Conn. His son, Elias, was the next in line of descent. He married Sybil Lillie, daughter of Nathan Lillie. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and died Feb. 8, 1805, at an advanced age. His son, Capt. Elias Robinson, the grandfather of our subject, was born Nov. 13, 1780, and was reared to the life of a farmer. He married Fanny Francis, and removed to Ohio with teams in 1820, and became a pioneer of Union County, continuing his residence there until death. He received his title as an officer in the War of 1812.

The father of our subject, George Robinson, was born in Union County, Ohio, and was reared to a stalwart manhood in his native State. He remained a resident of Union and Champaign counties until 1853, and then came to Woodford County, the removal being made with teams. He bought a tract of land in Metamora Township, only a part of which had been improved. In the years that followed he busied himself with the pioneer task of developing a farm, which he brought to a fine state of cultivation, and supplied it with substantial buildings, and otherwise greatly increased its value. In his death, March 11, 1883, this township lost one of its most worthy citizens, one who had contributed his quota toward its advancement, and had always been warmly interested in its welfare. He was twice married. The maiden name of his first wife, mother of our subject, was Lorana Smith. She was born in Woodstock, Champaign Co., Ohio, and was a daughter of Sylvanus and Thankful (Kelsey) Smith, natives of Vermont. She closed her eyes in death in her native State in 1851. The subject of this sketch was the only child by that marriage. The father was married a second time March 16, 1853, Miss Janet Kellogg becoming his wife. She was born in Lamoille County, Vt., a daughter of Warren and Jennie (Gray) Kellogg. She is now living at a venerable age on the old homestead on section 2.

He of whom this biographical review is written, was six years old when his parents came to this county, and he grew to manhood here, and was given the educational advantages of the public schools. He remained at home with his parents until his marriage, when he located on the farm which he now owns and occupies. It comprises 480 acres of fine, well-improved prairie land, on which he has erected neat and tasty buildings, and has adorned the grounds with beautiful shade and fruit trees. He has his farm well-stocked with cattle, horses and hogs of good grades, from the sale of which he derives a good annual income.

In the building up of this pleasant, attractive home Mr. Robinson has had the cheerful co-operation of a devoted wife, to whom he was united in marriage in February, 1878. To them have come five sons: George W., Francis, Lewis S., Robert C., and Arthur L. Mrs. Robinson is a native of Metamora Township, and a daughter of Marcellus and Patience (Fairchilds) Wilson. She was born in Metamora Township Jan. 31, 1858.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are sensible, well-informed people, of high social standing, and they understand well how, by genial courtesy and thoughtful attention to their guests, to make their

pretty home attractive to friends, of whom they have many, or to strangers who happen to come beneath its hospitable roof. Mr. Robinson has all the characteristics that mark a man of strong mind and manly purpose, and Woodford County possesses no more loyal citizen, one who is at once public-spirited and open-handed. As an intelligent man should, he interests himself in politics, and exerts his influence in favor of the Republican party.

ROBERT N. RADFORD, is editor of the *Eureka Journal* and is conducting one of the most interesting and spicy newspapers in Central Illinois, and evidently has the proper idea of the manner in which such an enterprise should be managed. He is a terse and forcible writer and possesses those rare social qualities which have made him a general favorite in his community. He gives his undivided time and attention to the *Journal* which is independent in politics, and takes an active interest in political affairs, keeping himself thoroughly posted upon current events. The *Journal* has become one of the indispensable institutions of Woodford County and is steadily growing in popularity as well as in a financial point of view.

The subject of this notice comes of some of the best blood in the South, being the son of Benjamin J. and Francis T. (Lawrence) Radford who were both natives of Virginia, the father born in Cumberland County and the mother in Richmond. When quite young and prior to their marriage, the parents removed with their respective families to Christian Country, Ky., where they were married in 1825. They lived there until 1834, then emigrated to Illinois and settled near the present site of Eureka, which was then known as Walnut Grove, and to which point they had been preceded only by a few families. The father followed the peaceful pursuits of agriculture and at the same time interested himself in the general welfare of the community, being the encourager of religious and educational institutions and instrumental in the establishment of the Christian Church in Eureka. The parents both died at the old farm, the father Sept. 12, 1857, and the mother Oct. 18, 1864.

To Benjamin and Frances Radford there were born four daughters and seven sons, and only six of the children are living. Four of the sons were in the Union Army during the Civil War. Two of the sons met death while fighting for their country. Two of them lived to return home and are now living in Eureka. Robert N. was the fifth child of the family and was born in Christian County, Ky,. Sept. 30, 1833. He was but an infant when his parents took up their abode in this county, where he was reared upon the new farm and remained there until a youth of eighteen years. For the following three years he was employed as clerk in a general store. Then returning home he assumed charge of the farm from 1858 to 1874, after which he turned his attention to newspaper work and purchased the *Eureka Journal* of which he has since been editor and proprietor.

In 1881 Mr. Radford associated himself in partnership with E. J. Davidson, his nephew, and the firm is familiarly known as Radford & Davidson. In connection with the newspaper is a well-equipped job office, doing a thriving business. The business talents of Mr. Radford are fully in keeping with his literary acquirements, and he has placed the *Journal* upon a sound basis and in a condition in which it compares favorably with the other leading newspapers of this part of the State. He is a man prompt to meet his obligations, while his cordial and genial temperament secures him friends wherever he goes.

Mr. Radford was married in Tazewell County, this State, Sept. 25, 1861 to Miss Octavia, daughter of the late Dr. Samuel Landes of Hickman, Ky. Mrs. Radford was born in Hopkinsville, Ky., May 25, 1840, and lived only twenty-one months after her marriage, her death occurring June 27, 1862. She was a lady of many estimable qualities and a member in good standing of the Christian Church.

Prior to the division of Olio and Cruger Townships Mr. Radford held the offices of Assessor, Collector, Supervisor and, indeed, about all the offices within the gift of the people; and he has ever been found faithful and efficient in the discharge of the duties pertaining thereto. He is a man of decided

views not easily turned from his convictions, but one who at all times is credited with the sincerity of belief which makes him brave in the assertion of his principles and sufficiently aggressive to battle for what he believes to be right. He takes a warm interest in all the enterprises calculated to benefit Eureka and vicinity and no question which is at all worthy of discussion, passes unnoticed or fails to receive the proper space in the columns of the *Journal*. Thus its advent is looked for each week by its patrons with an interest which is never allowed to flag, and each year adds materially to its list of subscribers.

ELIJAH R. MARSHALL, a pioneer of Woodford County, though not among the first comers, was one of the first settlers of Roanoke Township, coming here in the prime and vigor of early manhood, and casting in his lot with the sturdy, practical farmers who had preceded him, and has ever since devoted himself to agricultural pursuits on this rich soil. His patient toil directed by sound discretion and an energetic spirit, has been amply rewarded, and he rejoices in the possession of a large, well stocked farm, that is complete in all its appointments, and ranks with the fine farms for which this section of the country is noted.

Our subject is a Vermonter by birth, born among the hills of Sudbury, in Rutland County, Nov. 15, 1826. His father, Thomas Marshall, was born in Chester, Windsor Co., Vt., March 13, 1801, a son of Elijah Marshall, who was born in England Nov. 6, 1766. His father, John Marshall, was born in England, Nov. 6, 1716. The maiden name of his wife, the great-great-grandmother of our subject, was Marion Horton, and the date of her birth was Nov. 28, 1721. The following is the record of the twelve children born to them: Joseph, born July 3, 1737; James, Dec. 14, 1741; Martha, May 14, 1743; James 2d, Dec. 21, 1744; John, Aug. 29, 1747; Sarah, Feb. 25, 1749; Mary, April 7, 1752; Rebecca, Oct. 30, 1754, Isaiah, Jan. 29, 1757; Elizabeth, Aug. 5, 1759; Joseph 2d, March 13, 1764; Elijah, Nov. 6, 1766. The grandfather of our subject removed from his home near Salem, Mass., to Vermont, and was one of the pioneers of Chester, of which he was a resident from that time till his death. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Pearce, and she was a native of Massachusetts, born Sept. 5, 1768. She died on the home farm in the town of Chester.

The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and was married in Windsor County to Martha Brooks, a native of Chester. Her father, Solomon Brooks, was born in New Hampshire, and removed from there to Windsor County, Vt., and settled in the town of Chester. He resided there till 1844, when he came to Illinois, and located in Brimfield, Peoria County, where he made his home with his son until his death of cholera in 1849. The maiden name of his wife was Millie Fisher, and she died in 1847. After marriage Mr. Marshall bought a farm in the town of Sudbury, Rutland County. But on account of ill-health he was obliged to return to Windham County, and later to Windsor County, where he bought a tract of land. He engaged in farming there till 1850, when he came to Illinois, and after spending his first summer here in Metamora Township, he bought a tract of land on section 8, Roanoke Township. A few acres were broken, and he improved a valuable farm, on which he resided until a short time before his demise. He then went to live with his daughter, Mrs. Fisher, in Metamora Township, and died in her home Sept. 4, 1879. His wife is still living with Mrs. Fisher, and she has attained the advanced age of eighty-nine. Those worthy people were the parents of seven children, six of whom grew to maturity, as follows: Lestina, born March 31, 1822, is the wife of Abner Bailey, of Ford County; our subject and his sister Mary (twins), the latter the wife of Samuel Butterfield; Amelia, born April 23, 1830, married E. A. Fisher of Metamora Township; Solomon, born April 18, 1833, lives in Roanoke Township; Cyrus, born Feb. 26, 1837, lives in Ford County.

He of whom we write was the oldest son, and he was reared in his native State, receiving a fair education in the public schools, and at the early age of eight years the sturdy, manly little lad began

to earn his own living. He continued to work by the month till 1848, and then started for the great West, coming to Illinois, by stage to Troy, N. Y., thence by Erie Canal to Buffalo, from there by the lakes to Chicago, and then by canal and Illinois River to Peoria. He visited Woodford County at the time, and after a stay here of three weeks he and his companion bought six horses and a buggy and returned overland to Vermont. In March, 1849, our subject again started on a journey to this part of the country, coming by stage to Troy, and thence by rail to Buffalo, from there on a lumber wagon to Canada and Detroit, and from the latter place he walked the greater part of the way to Peoria. After his arrival he rented a farm in Peoria County, and operated it till fall, when he came once again to Woodford County, and in February 1849, he made a claim to the southeast quarter of section 8, Roanoke Township, and going to Springfield on horseback he entered it at the government land office in that city. He built a house on the place, and broke about forty acres of the land before his next purchase in the month of June, the same year, when he bought the southwest quarter of section 7, Roanoke Township, where he now resides. There was a log house standing on the land at the time, and a few acres were broken. He paid $2.50 an acre for the land, and has lived to see its value greatly increased by his judicious management and the many fine improvements that he has made. He has erected a good set of frame buildings, and has everything about the place in excellent order. A portion of the lumber from which his substantial dwelling was built was drawn from Chicago. He has added to his landed property till he is now the proprietor of 320 acres of fine, well improved land. At the time he located here there were but four houses in the township, and it has been his good fortune to assist in the development of the country from a wild prairie to a wealthy and prosperous community. In the early days of his settlement here there were no railways in Illinois, and he aided in building the first railway in the State. For some years Peoria, Spring Bay, and Lacon were the principal markets, and it was much more difficult for a farmer to dispose of his produce in those days than in these times of easy communication by rail, to large towns and cities that have grown up almost under the eyes of our subject.

Feb 12, 1853, Mr. Marshall was married to Miss Martha S. Fisher, and to them have come four children, of whom the following is recorded: Amos, who lives on the home farm, was born Oct. 24, 1854, and married Oct. 19, 1882 to Miss Josie Scott: Ira E., a practicing physician in Chicago, was born Feb. 28, 1856, and was married Feb. 9, 1888, to Miss Emma Mason; Rolla E., living on the home farm, was born Jan. 30, 1863, and was married Sept. 2, 1885, to Miss Carrie C. Lightfoot; Orpha, living on the home farm with her parents, was born Sept. 18, 1867. She learned the art of dressmaking, in Chicago and is skillful at her trade. These children were all given good opportunities for an education. The two elder sons were graduated from Alton College. Rolla was a student at Eureka College, and Orpha spent one year at Eureka College and one year at Evanston College.

Mrs. Marshall is, like her husband, a native of Vermont, born at Mendon, in Rutland County, June 10, 1832. Her father, Amos Fisher, was born in the town of Grafton, Windham Co., Vt., and his father, Dr. Amos Fisher, was born in Massachusetts. He practiced in Grafton many years, and was well known in all the country round. Mrs. Marshall's father was reared and married in his native State, and was a resident there till 1843, when he came to Illinois accompanied by his wife and eight children. The entire journey was made with a team, they having a covered wagon and a stove, and they cooked and camped by the way. They started on the 28th of September, and arrived at Low Point, Cazenovia Township, December 3. He there bought a tract of land and began the improvement of a place. His life was not prolonged many years after his settlement in this county, as his death occurred in 1850. The maiden name of his wife, Mrs. Marshall's mother, was Lydia Stoddard, and she was a daughter of Samuel and Zebiah (Richmond) Stoddard. There were eight children born of their union: Emerald A., Martha S., Louisa, Francis, Annie, Rosana, Ezra, Cynthia. After her husband's death Mrs. Fisher continued to reside on the homestead until 1867, and then

sold the place and removed to Cazenovia, thence to Metamora, where she died in the home of her son Emerald, May 29, 1879. She also resided several years with our subject prior to her death.

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall and their children are members of the Baptist Church, and by their conduct in the every day affairs of life, show that they are sincere believers in the faith, and that their lives are guided by Christian principles. In politics Mr. Marshall is a stanch Republican, and although he is a strong prohibitionist he stands by his party, as he does not favor a division in its ranks to form a third party. He has always taken an interest in educational matters, and besides assisting in organizing the first school district in Roanoke, was one of the School Directors of the township for upwards of twenty years. Mr. Marshall is in every sense a steadfast, reliable man, one who never betrays a trust, and who is at all times and on all occasions found to be a cheerful and ready helper by those needing assistance, and his neighbors who consult him in regard to personal matters find him a wise and safe counselor.

In 1864, during the War of the Rebellion, our subject was drafted into the service, but secured a substitute, for which he paid $700. Our subject erected the first frame barn, and first frame house in Roanoke Township.

WILLIAM STEVENSON. In this gentleman, Woodford County has a fine representative of the citizen-soldiers of our land whose bravery and patriotism saved the Union in the trying times of the late Civil War, and who since then have been important factors in increasing and extending the material prosperity of our country. He is one of the foremost farmers and stock growers of Cazenovia Township, where he has an extensive well-managed farm, amply provided with conveniently arranged, commodious buildings, and all other appointments of a well-regulated estate.

Our subject was born near Bladensburg, Knox Co., Ohio, Aug. 7, 1833. His father, George Stevenson, was a native of Washington County, Pa.; and was the son of another George Stevenson, who was a gallant soldier during the Revolution, and after the close of the war was captured by the Indians and taken to Canada and held for ransom. He spent his last years in quietness in the home of his son George in Knox County, Ohio. The father of our subject spent his early life in his native State, and when a young man, crossed the mountains into Ohio, and became a pioneer of Knox County, buying a tract of heavily timbered land and there building a rude log house in which our subject was born. He was quite prosperous in his career as a farmer, clearing quite a large farm, erecting a good set of frame buildings, and making many other valuable improvements. In 1854 he sold his property in Ohio and came to Tazewell County, Ill., where he resided until March, 1856, when he removed to this county and invested in a section of fine farming land, comprising the northeast quarter and the east half of the south west quarter of section 12, Cazenovia Township. One hundred acres of the land were broken and fenced, and a new house stood on the place. At that time Lacon was the nearest market, and Minonk was the nearest railway station. During the few years that his life was spared after coming to this county, Mr. Stevenson made many improvements on his farm, and at the time of his death, which occurred in the fall of 1862, already had quite a good farm. He was a man of industrious habits and of high principles, and was accounted a valuable citizen. The venerable mother of our subject now makes her home with her son Thomas on the old homestead, and she has attained the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Her maiden name was Hannah Le Fever. To her and her husband came ten children, eight of whom grew to maturity: Thomas, James, now dead; Martha J., wife of C. F. McCulloch; our subject: Eliza, the wife of Richard Norris; George, who was a soldier in the late war, enlisting in Company C, 65th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and dying in the service; Caroline is the wife of D. H. Norris; Oliver, now dead.

William Stevenson, the subject of this biographical review, was reared in his native county, attended the early schools taught on the subscrip-

tion plan, and as soon as large enough began to help his father on the farm, receiving from him a good drill in agricultural pursuits. He came to Illinois with his parents in the opening years of his manhood, and remained with them till the date of his entering the army. Imbued with the patriotic spirit of his Revolutionary grandsire, Aug. 13, 1862 he left his pleasant home at his country's call and marched to her defence, enrolling his name as a member of Company C, 77th Illinois Infantry, and serving through all the remaining years of the war till the cruel strife was over, and peace was declared. He went through the entire Vicksburg campaign, and was with Gen. Banks on his Red River expedition, taking an active part in the most important battles fought on the route. Later he was present at the battles of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely. He did good service in camp and field, and proved to be a cool, courageous, faithful soldier, always prompt in obeying orders and ever ready to follow his leader. He was discharged with his regiment at Springfield and returned home on the 10th day of August, 1865.

After his experience of military life, our subject quietly resumed farming, and in 1871 located on his present homestead. He has met with more than ordinary success in the pursuit of his calling, and has one of the best farms in all Cazenovia Township. It comprises 400 acres of land of exceeding fertility and under a high state of cultivation so that it yields to the utmost, and it is furnished with a neat and commodious, well-arranged set of buildings and all kinds of machinery for facilitating the farm labors. It is admirably adapted to raising stock, and Mr. Stevenson has fine herds of well-graded horses, cattle and hogs.

In his efforts to build up this pretty, comfortable home Mr. Stevenson has been warmly seconded by a helpful, capable wife, to whom he was united in marriage Nov. 2, 1870. Their pleasant wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Carrie Elizabeth, Lena May, Ralph. Mrs. Stevenson's maiden name was Eleanor Dodds, and she is a native of Cazenovia Township, a daughter of William and Priscilla Dodds, of whom see sketch on another page of this book.

Mr. Stevenson is in every way worthy of the high respect in which he is held by the entire community, as he is a noble, true-hearted, loyal, Christian gentleman, one in whom his fellow-citizens place implicit trust. He possesses in a high degree the foresight, sagacity and sound discrimination that are so essential to success in any calling, combining with these a due sense of honor and honesty. He and his estimable wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian Church, sincere in their religious faith as betokened by their works. Mr. Stevenson is a strong Republican in his political views, voting as he fought, for the principles promulgated by that party.

DAVID EVANS. Probably no man has been more closely identified for the past eighteen years with the business interests of El Paso than the subject of this biography. Since 1871 he has operated extensively as a grain dealer and from that year until 1884, was associated in partnership with Mr. Jenkins who has been for the past four years a resident of California. The firm transacted a large business and since being dissolved, Mr. Evans has operated singly and alone. He came to Woodford from Peoria County, where he had been occupied in farming and milling on the Kickapoo River, fifteen miles from the city of Peoria. This mill was established by his father in the pioneer times and is still the property of the family.

Our subject attained his majority in Peoria County, Ill., of which he became a resident in 1840. Upon reaching manhood he succeeded to his father's business in connection with the mill which was established in 1844 and with which he remained until 1871, the year of his removal to El Paso. He was born in Montgomery Township, Montgomery County, Pa., his early home being on the Bethlehem Pike. His father, Evan Evans, was likewise a native of Montgomery County and the son of Walter Evans who traced his ancestry to Wales. The latter settled in Pennsylvania where

they flourished for several generations and were almost invariably occupied in farming and milling. They were generally Baptists in religion.

Walter Evans, the paternal grandfather of our subject, married a Pennsylvania lady, Miss Smith, and they spent the remainder of their lives in Montgomery County, passing away when ripe in years. Their son, Evan, the father of our subject, was one of the elder members of a large family, and he upon attaining to man's estate married Miss Amelia Morris, a lady of Welsh descent. They remained in Pennsylvania until the birth of all their family and then about 1840 decided to change their residence to the farther West. After being engaged in milling a number of years the father turned his attention to farming exclusively. The wife and mother departed this life when about forty-five years old, and the elder Evans was subsequently married in Montgomery County, Pa. to Mary A. Hill. There were born to the latter three children, one of whom, Sarah, died young. Mr. Evans and his second wife lived to be quite old. He and both his wives and most of their children belonged to the Baptist Church.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest of the three children of his father's first marriage, the others being Walter M., and Elizabeth, who are deceased. Both had been married and left families.

Our subject and his wife are active members of the Baptist Church in which Mr. Evans has been a deacon for many years and to which he contributes liberally. Politically, he is a sound Republican and has served a number of terms as School Director, also represented his ward in the City Council several terms. He is the friend of education and is especially interested in church matters.

CHRISTIAN RUVENCHT. Among those who ventured into Woodford County during its early settlement, was a large representation from across the Atlantic, who have assisted greatly in developing the soil, building up from the prairie beautiful homesteads adding largely to the business interests of this section and developing its agricultural resources. The subject of this notice is worthy of honorable mention among the pioneers of Panola Township, to which he came when a young man and where he has since lived. By a course of arduous labor and close economy he built up a valuable homestead of which he is now in possession, enjoying all the comforts of life, and which is pleasantly located on section 3.

A native of the province of Alsace, formerly belonging to France, our subject was born Dec. 26, 1834 and lived there until a youth of eighteen years. In the meantime he was given a practical education and was taught those habits of industry and economy which have enabled him to fortify himself against want in his old age. He learned both French and German and when leaving school was occupied principally upon a farm. He was an ambitious lad and when reaching his eighteenth year, not being satisfied with his prospects in his native place resolved upon emigrating to America.

In the spring of 1852 our subject repaired to Havre and took passage on a sailing vessel which, after an ocean voyage of fifty-two days, landed him safely in New Orleans. Thence he came directly to this county and sought employment and for several years thereafter worked as a farm laborer until saving enough to prosecute farming on his own account. He began on rented land and in due time purchased forty acres for which he paid six dollars per acre and which is included in his present homestead. This was then a wild prairie upon which not a furrow had been turned. Deer, turkeys and wolves were plentiful and his neighbors were few and far between.

Always making it a rule to live within his income Mr. Ruvencht soon found himself on the road to prosperity and invested his capital in additional land until he became the owner of 400 acres in this county, and 240 acres in Livingston County. While laboring and waiting he has watched with warm interest the growth and development of his adopted State and may properly feel that he has been instrumental in bringing it to its present condition. His broad fields with their neat and substantial fences, his fat cattle and horses with his farm buildings and other improvements,

indicate in a marked manner to what good purpose he has labored and the economy and prudence which he must have practiced. Although having very little to do with outside matters, he keeps himself well posted upon current events and votes independently, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified for office irrespective of party. Several years ago he was a School Director in his district and also officiated as Pathmaster.

Our subject was married in 1864 to Miss Catherine Risser and there have been born to them three children. The eldest, a daughter, Annie, is the wife of Joseph Bughman of Livingston County. Barbara and Solomon are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Ruvenecht belong to the Mennonite Church in which they are leading members and to which they contribute a liberal support. Although having labored many years, they are still in their prime and well fitted to enjoy the fruits of their early industry.

JAMES F. BOURN has been for many years identified with the leading interests of Minonk and vicinity. He is of English descent, his grandfather, Elijah Bourn, having emigrated to America from the shores of Albion when he was sixteen years of age. Having reached the land of liberty he made his home in the Old Dominion, whither so many of his own nation had preceded him. In Virginia he made the acquaintance of the lady who became his wife. Their honeymoon was spent in a manner which would certainly have the charm of novelty to the brides and grooms of the present day, who hurry across the ocean, or seek a gay, fashionable summer resort. Grandfather Bourn and his young wife proceeded the day after their marriage to Kentucky, not in the usual modern way of traveling, but by horseback. After a long, fatiguing journey over the mountains of Western Virginia they at last reached their future home, and settled on a small tract of land two miles from Nicholasville, and twelve miles distant from the city of Lexington. In this retired spot the couple passed their lives, the wife dying in middle life, while the husband lived to four score and four years. His first marriage resulted in the birth of eight children, of whom Elijah is the father of our subject. Grandfather Bourn married in later years, but there were no children from this second union.

Elijah Bourn grew to manhood in Kentucky under the parental roof, but at the age of twenty-five went to Owen County, Ind., when he was married the year after his arrival to Miss Nancy Alexander. He then located on land he had previously purchased in Ray Township, Morgan Co., Ind. This land was heavily timbered, and required constant and diligent labor to reduce it to a state of cultivation. However, Elijah Bourn was successful in putting into good condition 200 acres out of his purchase of 400 acres of the timbered land. He at one time owned 1,300 acres of land, and was even for those times a large landholder.

The record of the ten children born to Elijah Bourn and his first wife is as follows: James F., Alexander, Marietta, Henry, Mahala, Emeline, Jefferson, Perry, Newton and Sarah. The oldest of this family is he of whom we write. Alexander died in Morgan County, Ind., leaving three children; Marietta married Samuel Wheeler, and became the mother of four children, three sons and one daughter. She died in Owen County, Ind.; Henry is a resident of Morgan County, Ind.; Mahala married Thomas Hodges, of Morgan County, She passed to her last rest, leaving three children; Emiline married Elijah Mannon and became the mother of five children. She died at her home in Morgan County; Jefferson, also died in Morgan County, leaving three fatherless children; Perry makes his home in Sherman County, Neb.; Newton is a resident of Adams County, Neb. The youngest of this large family, Sarah, resides in Morgan County, Ind. The father of our subject was married a second time, and passed away June 7, 1887, when he had reached the advanced age of seventy-nine years.

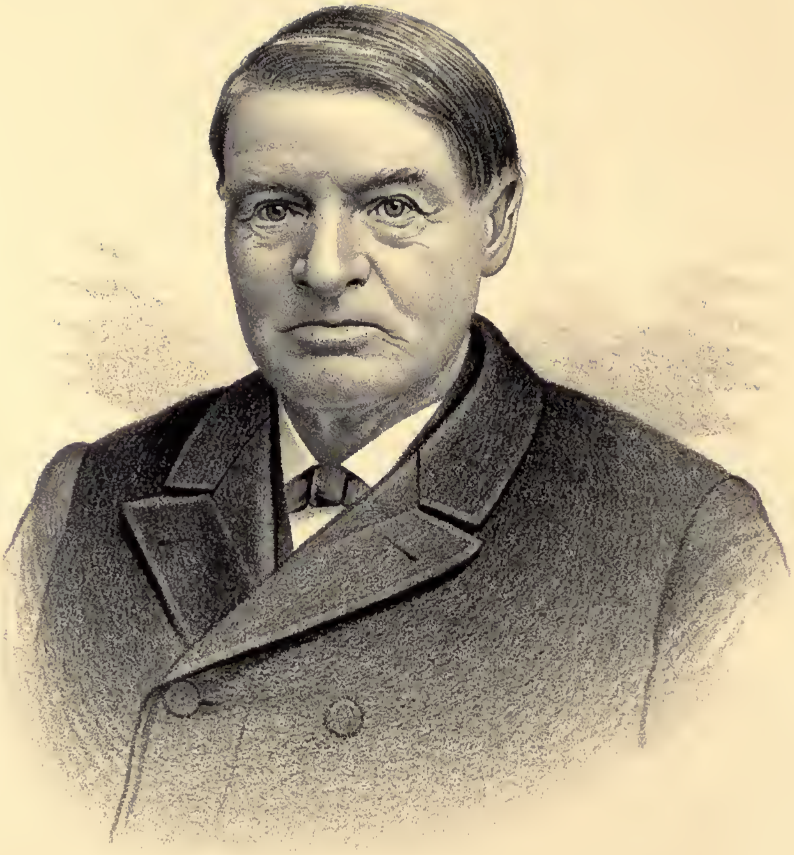
The gentleman whose life record is here briefly

outlined, was born in Morgan County, Ind., Jan. 17, 1831, was reared to manhood on the home farm, and as the majority of the boys of that day passed their time, he also was early put to such work as his strength and experience enabled him to perform, and in the winter seasons went for a very few months to the district school. At the age of nineteen years he was fortunate enough to attend a graded school in Owen County, for one term, and the instruction therein received was of material advantage to him in his life work. At the age of twenty years he became a clerk for his uncle who was engaged in the mercantile business, and was his assistant for the period of one year, then he returned to his father's home.

It is certainly appropriate that the biographical record of Mr. Bourn should also contain an outline of the history and ancestry of her, who has been for these many years a devoted, earnest colaborer, ever at his side, ready to lend assistance to worthy projects, and to whose material aid and sensible advice Mr. Bourn owes no little of his present prosperity. To this faithful companion Mr. Bourn was united in marriage March 1, 1855. She was then Miss Barsheba E. Trowbridge, and was a native of Washington County, Ind., and born Jan. 23, 1832. Her parents were Dempsey and Edith (Scketton) Trowbridge, natives respectively of Virginia and Kentucky. She was only four years old when her father was taken from the family by death, so she is not familiar with her paternal ancestry. Mr. Dempsey Trowbridge was a man universally respected, of firm character, and strength of will and was by profession a teacher and minister in the Christian Church: Mrs. Trowbridge survived her husband for a long time, dying in the autumn of 1865, when the winter of her life was rapidly approaching. She died in Marshall County, Ill.

Rev. and Mrs. Dempsey Trowbridge had a family of eleven children, whose names follow: Samuel W., Allen H., Robert T., Elizabeth A., Mary J., Barsheba E., (the wife of our subject), Martha E., James M., Sandford, Melinda A. and Dempsey H. The eldest of these, Samuel W., died in Morgan County; Allen H., is a minister in the Christian Church, at Rutland, Ill., and is well known among the ranks of that church, as an able preacher, an earnest man, and a sincere Christian. He is following in the footsteps of his father, and is held in high esteem among his parishioners. Robert T., the third son, died in his early manhood in Indiana; Elizabeth A. married Jefferson C. Gray, and passed away in Jasper County, Ind.; Mary J. married Washington Bennington, but is dead, this event occurring at her home, in Marshall County, Ill.; Martha E., the third daughter, became the wife of William Potts, and resides in Mitchell County, Kan.; Sanford died when young; Melinda A. married John Brown and died in Jasper County, Ind.; Dempsey H., the namesake of his father, has been gifted with a fine voice, and is an instructor in vocal music in Wymore, Neb., where James M., also resides.

Thus assuming the responsibility of a family at the age of twenty-five years, our subject has been prospered in his enterprises and has enjoyed the blessings of a happy home and a comfortable income. After his marriage Mr. Bourn settled on some land owned by his father, situated on the White River bottoms. Here he built a house after the primitive manner of carpentering. For nine years he remained here, shaking with the ague, which had him completely under power. In 1863 he came to drier, sunnier climes in Marshall County, Ill., which was his home until 1865, when he settled in Minonk. He rented land at $2.25 per acre in Marshall County, but upon changing his location purchased land, now his farm. For one year of his residence in Minonk he was engaged in a store, and for one year also was a miller. For a period of three years he rented and tilled 400 acres of land. He gained an excellent reputation as a farmer, for whatever he undertook was executed in a thorough, systematic manner to the very best of his ability. The passer-by would always notice the absence of weeds, those destructive enemies of the farmer, and would also admire the general air of neatness on the farm, while at present his garden is kept in a manner worthy of his reputation, being clean and beautiful, and containing only the choicest articles of garden produce. The farm owned by Mr. Bourn is capable of remarkable cultivation, and one year our sub-



Armsted Herrick

Jane Herrick

ject gathered 11,000 bushels of corn off of 150 acres of land. Now, however, his principal attention is concentrated on gardening.

Mr. Bourn is a member of the Christian Church, and serves as Deacon, besides giving liberally to the support and maintenance of the cause. In general politics he is a Republican, being in full sympathy with the principles advocated by that party, but in affairs of local importance only, he aims to vote for the man not for the party, being very liberal in his views.

The family of Mr. Bourn is small now, though in the past five children clustered around the table and fireside. One of these, a daughter, Anna, by name, died in childhood. Four are now living: James Dempsey, better known under his pseudonym of "Owen Bartlett," is a theatrical manager. The second son, William Parris, is now farming in this county; Rose E., the only surviving daughter, lives in Abilene, Kan., and is the wife of R. S. Jacobs of that place. She has one child named Oscar F.; the youngest of the family is Fred P., who is living at home.

Thus conspicuous among the many residents of Woodford County is Mr. Bourn, as a man of industry, prudence, far-seeing and kind-hearted. He and his estimable wife represent the best society in their adopted home, and are everywhere welcomed as respected guests.

REV. ARMISTED KERRICK. "Mr. Kerrick has traveled more miles, preached more sermons, made more prayers than any other local preacher in the State." The above is quoted from the Rev. John W. Rogers, endorsed by the Rev. Richard Haney, one of the pioneer ministers of the Methodist Church, and his son, the Rev. James Haney. Not only has Mr. Kerrick delivered many discourses but he is also noted for the ability and the power displayed through the medium of his sermons. He is known by everyone within many miles, and wherever he has gone his name is a household word, as belonging to a minister who has accomplished a great good in his county and State. He is very outspoken in his opinions, and speaks his sentiments without fear or favor.

The Rev. Mr. Kerrick resides in Bennington Township, Marshall County, where his home has been from the year 1856. He is the son of Thomas and Phœbe (Carethers) Kerrick. The Kerrick family are of Irish extraction, but for many generations have been residents of the United States. In 1824 the family removed from their Eastern home to what was then considered the far away West, Muskingum County, Ohio. Later their residence was in Franklin County, Ind. Thomas Kerrick was a carpenter by trade, but before leaving his first home in Virginia he met with an accident which debarred him from working longer in this trade. He had been injured in Virginia by a runaway horse, and was left a cripple for life. When he left his native State he was scarcely able to walk, while he carried his arm in a sling for some time. He had only $27.50 to carry himself and his family to their new home, but after reaching Muskingum County he taught school and two of the sons engaged in cutting wood. The wood thus obtained they exchanged for salt, for which they paid twenty cents per bushel. The autumn succeeding their arrival they were enabled to get the means to continue their westward journey, and with a one horse team, emigrated to Franklin County. From that place they again removed in 1840 to Decatur County, Ind. In this county the boys grew up, obtaining such education as was possible, which as may be readily imagined was very limited. Their land was rented, and they were compelled to work very hard especially at first, to make both ends meet.

Thomas Kerrick for many years employed himself as a teacher, for which position he was naturally adapted by his thoroughness and patience, as well as by his education. During the latter part of his life he was quite deaf and almost blind, so that he would consent to take only very small schools. He passed away in 1856, at the homestead in Decatur County. His wife lived some years thereafter, and during the last portion of her life was also nearly blind.

Thomas Kerrick and his wife had a family of

eight children, whose names are given as follows: Nimrod, a resident of Bloomington, Ill.; James, who died in Decatur County; Walter, who died in Marshall County, Ill.; Armisted, of this sketch; Johanna and Stephen both died in Decatur County, Ind.; Hugh passed from earth in Rush County, Ind.; Mary married James Throp, of Decatur County.

Armisted Kerrick is a native of Loudoun County, Va., and was born Feb. 21, 1819. The principal portion of his boyhood and youth was spent in Franklin County, Ind. At the age of twenty years he went to Decatur County to clear up some land and prepare it for a residenee for his parents, who removed there the following year. When prepared to establish domestic ties of his own our subject was united in marriage with Miss Sarah A. Sloan. He was a brave man, assuredly, for when he formed a home of his own he was penniless, hut with the natural courage of youth he feared no future, however dark. His wife was born in Union County, Ind. After their marriage he rented land, and began by persevering, unremitting work to lay the foundation of future comfort. He was able in 1845 with the assistance of his father, to purchase eighty acres of land in Franklin County, on which he settled.

Rev. Mr. Kerrick was prevented from assiduous labor for a long period, on account of an unfortunate accident which occurred before his marriage. He had his knee cut by an ax, and it was sufficiently severe to cripple him for some time. He suffered from poor health often after that, but never allowed it to interfere with his chosen calling, the preaching of the Gospel.

From Indiana Mr. Kerrick and his family removed to Low Point, Woodford Co., Ill. He was now the possessor of about $3,000 in money, and the first year of his residence in the new home he cleared 123 acres of land in three different pieces. He has occupied his present home since 1864, and is now the owner of 566 acres of land, which he has improved until it is in good condition.

Mrs. Kerriek died in 1870, March 19, leaving nine children, two having already preceded her to rest. Their names are: Joanna, wife of Ahua Rogers; Mary, Stephen, deceased; Josiah, Thomas, resides in Kansas; Jacob W., deceased; Harrison, James, in Minonk; Henry, of Bloomington, Ill.; Benjamin B. and Phœbe.

The second wife of Mr. Kerrick, who yet remains by his side, was Mrs. Jane (Burleigh) Soures. She was born in Perry County, where her father, Tazalear Burleigh, still lives. By his second union Mr. Kerrick has had three children, namely: John B., Tazalear, and one daughter, named Orpha., who died when only five years old. Mrs. Kerrick, by her former marriage, had one child, a daughter, Minnie Soures. In politics Mr. Kerrick is a Republican, and is very proud of the fact that in 1840 he voted for Gen. W. H. Harrison, and in 1888 for Benjamin Harrison for the Presidency of the United States, and has five boys who voted for Harrison.

Mr. Kerrick for many years has been an ornament to the Methodist Church, of the State of Illinois. He has benefited the church in which he officiates as minister, by the purity of his life which is an example all men might follow. He will be sadly missed when called away from the ranks, but can rest in the knowledge of the fact that he has been faithful in the few things which have been committed to his care, and thus will be prepared for the greater joys that yet remain unto the people of God.

As in turning over the pages of the family Album the eye pauses longest before the faces of those we most tenderly love and most highly esteem, so in perusing this ALBUM, the reader's gaze will rest lingeringly and lovingly upon the portraits of Mr. Kerrick and his wife, who have grown old in the Lord's vineyard.

MERIT PATTERSON is engaged in general farming and stock-raising on section 29, Palestine Township. He is a leading and influential citizen of the community, and is well and favorably known throughout the entire county, where he has many friends. As a public spirited and progressive man, he is well

worthy of a representation in this volume, and we are pleased to record his sketch, which is as follows:

He was born in Rush County Ind.. May 30th, 1833, and is deseended from an early Virginian family. His grandfather, James Patterson, who was a native of Germany, left his native land and emigrated to America during the colonial days of this country, settling in Londoun County Va. The aneestry of the family were noted for longevity, and he died at a ripe old age on the old homestead where he settled immediately after coming to this country.

The father of our subject, Joshua Patterson, was one of a large family of eleven children, almost all of whom lived to an advaneed age. He was born in Londoun County, Va., where he was reared to manhood and married Miss Mary Elizabeth Bell, daughter of James and (Mary Patterson) Bell, who passed their entire lives in the Old Dominion. The mother died when her daughter was an infant, and she was reared by an older sister, Mrs. Lydia Baxter, with whom she removed to Kentueky in an early day. They settled in Seott County, that State, and it was there that she beeame the wife of Mr. Patterson. Ten children were born of their union, seven sons and three daughters, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, were married and had families, while four sons and two daughters are yet living. In early life, Mr. Patterson had learned the blacksmith's trade, and after his marriage followed that occupation for a number of years. Believing that he could better his condition by a removal from Kentucky, he made a trip on horseback to Indiana with a view to selecting a location. and chose Rush County as the scene of his future operations. The mother of our subject accompanied his father on that journey; they were at Indianapolis where there was but one house at that time. and that was a log house. He then returned to his home and in 1825, accompanied by his family again started for the county in which he had resolved to locate. They made the journey with teams through an almost unbroken wilderness, but at length reached their destination in safety. They located in Richland Township, where Mr. Patterson cleared 160 acres of land, situated on what was known as the school section, and placed the entire amount under cultivation. He made many improvements, built a good home and from that time until his death resided upon the farm which he had first purchased. He was called from the busy scenes of this life Dec. 23, 1851, at the age of seventy-one years, his wife surviving him until Nov. 14, 1873, when she also passed to her final rest. In early life, Mrs. Patterson was a member of the Baptist Church, but after becoming a resident of Indiana, both she and her husband united with the Christian Church, and died in that faith.

Our subject was reared to manhood upon his father's home farm and received a common school education in his native county. On Oct. 2, 1856, he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Mary A. Mitchell, who was born in Pickaway County Ohio, Sept. 8, 1830, and is a daughter of Joseph and Cornelia (Foster) Mitchell, who are now residents of Andersonville, Franklin Co. Ind., where for a number of years Mr. Mitchell engaged in his trade of chair making, but now owns a store. Both are now more than seventy years of age. The grandfather of Mrs. Patterson was for a number of years a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but his wife is a member of the Christian Church. Unto them was born a family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, while three sons and six daughters are yet living, and with the exeeption of one son and one daughter all are married.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Patterson has been blessed by a family of six children, five of whom are yet living—Elsworth L., the first born, married Margaret Wilson, and now resides in Secor, where he is engaged at his trade of carpentering; Charles M., a resident farmer of Palestine Township, wedded Sarah Gassner; William Leslie is still at home, and assists in the cultivation of the farm; Everett is yet with his parents; Lillie is the wife of S. C. Platt, who for many years was a prominent teacher at Luverne Iowa; one child died in infancy.

Since attaining his majority, Mr. Patterson has followed the occupation of farming, and has been very successful in that business. He now owns and operates 160 acres of arable land on section

29, Palestine Township, where he has made his home since 1869, covering a period of twenty years. He has, however, resided in the township since 1864, the year of his arrival in the county. His land is now under a high state of cultivation, well improved and stocked with good grades of horses and cattle. His residence is a neat and substantial dwelling and is one of the most pleasant homes in the community, while the entire surroundings indicate thrift and refinement. As a business man, Mr. Patterson is sagacious and prudent, yet entertains progressive ideas, and is now numbered among the prosperous farmers of Woodford County. Though his life has not been without adversity, he possesses a resolute will and steadfastness of purpose which overcome all difficulties and insure success. In politics, he is a warm advocate of the principles of the Republican party, to which he gives his earnest support. He is ever ready to aid in the advancement of those enterprises which are calculated to benefit the general public, and has done no inconsiderable part towards securing the best educational advantages for the community, having frequently served as school director. Himself and wife are members of the Christian Church in which they are active workers, Mr. Patterson having served as Elder since its organization. Their many friends throughout the county will receive this brief sketch of their lives with pleasure, for they are widely and favorably known.

MARION POTTER. Many years have gone by since Ephraim Potter first came to Woodford County, with a view to establishing here a permanent home. He was a gentleman of Southern birth, and had been recently married to a young lady in Indiana. The greater portion of their married lives was passed in this State, and there the subject of this brief biographical record was born, April 2, 1843. He is thus now in the prime of life, and has accumulated around him the comforts of this world, having 320 acres of improved land in Palestine Township, on section 16. Not only does he farm with success, but he is also a stock-raiser, and in this has been prospered, gaining a reputation among all who know him, as a breeder of fine stock, as well as an agriculturist of more than ordinary ability and business management.

Briefly told, the life of Ephraim Potter, the father of our subject, is as follows: He was of Southern birth, and possessed the agreeable, fascinating social qualities for which the Southern people are famous. He was reared in North Carolina, his native State, and upon attaining years of maturity came to Indiana, where he married his second wife, Elizabeth Hedrick. She was born in Georgetown, and was there reared and married. After marriage Ephraim Potter and his wife came to Illinois, and made their home in Palestine Township, then a wild, uncultivated land, with but few inhabitants, and those separated by wide distances of seemingly uninhabitable land. Mr. Potter, with a clear, prophetic knowledge of what the future had in store for this land, sent to his old Southern home and persuaded his parents to come North and make their residence with him. This they did, spending the remainder of their lives in the country chosen as the abode of their son. They were quite aged when they passed to their final rest. Ephraim Potter and his wife lived and died on the homestead which they had built up on first coming to this county, and when called to rest were universally regretted and mourned. The father died Dec. 1, 1862, when about sixty years of age, but the mother survived him at her old home until December, 1881, when she too died. She was the second wife of Mr. Potter, for by a former marriage he became the father of ten children. His first wife died in Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Potter were both members of the Christian Church, and he was in politics a strong Democrat. In the pioneer social circles, they were universally esteemed as among the most generous and hospitable people of the whole county.

Marion Potter was among the younger of the nine children by the last marriage. He had four brothers and four sisters, most of whom are yet living. In this, his native county, our subject spent the days of his boyhood, which were happily

passed in the various employments necessary to the successful cultivation of a very large farm. Upon the outbreak of the civil war, although under age, our subject determined to do battle for the cause of the Union, and accordingly enlisted in the 88th Illinois Infantry, Company F, Capt. Chickering commanding. He enlisted in the latter part of 1862, and went with his regiment to the South, fighting with them at Perryville, Ky. He was honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky., after thirteen months' service.

Before the return of peace to the country, Mr. Potter was united in marriage, Jan. 28, 1864, with Miss Mary A. Fry, who was born in Ohio, Nov. 8, 1845. She was the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca (Billenger) Fry, natives of Pennsylvania, and residents of Ohio for many years. About 1860 they came West, and died in Palestine Township, after farming there several years with good results. Mr. and Mrs. Fry had a family of three children, of whom Mary A. was the only daughter. Her education was commenced in Ohio and completed in Illinois, and she received practical training which prepared her to take the household reins and assume the duties of a house, with little effort and good success. Mr. and Mrs. Potter had a family of seven children, of whom two are now deceased, having died in infancy. Those living are: Legetta M., Berta L., Chelsa O., Viola A. and Gilford E. These children all remain under the parental rooftree, and are receiving practical educations in the schools of the district. In politics Mr. Potter is a Democrat.

BENJAMIN D. HERRICK has been a resident of Woodford County ever since the year 1856, with the exception of eight years (1878—1886), which time was passed by him in Marshall County. He owns and operates 120 acres of land on section 6, Clayton Township, and also cultivates 120 acres of land which he rents and which adjoins his own property.

Our subject was born in Loudoun County, Va., on the 20th day of November, 1831, and is the son of William and Rowena (Holmes) Herrick, natives respectively of Virginia and Massachusetts. The Herrick family for many generations were residents of Massachusetts, where the grandfather of our subject was a Baptist minister, and where his entire life was passed. He was regarded as a man of powerful mental vigor as well as great charity toward all. He devoted his life to deeds of kindness, and raised a family of sons and daughters who walked in his footsteps.

William Herrick was the oldest son of his father, and in his youth was captivated by tales of ocean life, and so became a sailor. In due course of time he was promoted to be captain of a ship that traversed the Atlantic. As he grew older, however, sea life lost its charms, so he settled down in Virginia, and engaged in teaching school in Loudoun County. There he married, and in 1837 removed to Franklin County, Ind., where he followed the profession of a teacher. For a period of his life he taught school in Ohio. He passed from earth at his home in Decatur County, Ind., in 1853, when he had attained the age of sixty-five years. His wife, the mother of our subject, lived until 1885, dying at the age of eighty-two years.

To William Herrick and his wife there were born nine children, viz., Joshua, a resident of Jefferson County, Neb.; Benjamin D., of this sketch; Martha, who became the wife of S. H. Hamilton, and lives in Kingman County, Kan.; Electa, who married Angus Thom, of Minonk; William D., who makes his home in Table Rock, Neb.; Rowena, who is the wife of Abram Frost, of Jefferson County, Neb.; Stephen H., also a resident of Jefferson County, Neb.; Edwin M., who was a member of the 86th Illinois Infantry, and died of small-pox in New York City while on his way home. He was wounded in a skirmish near Savannah; Gilbert, who also enlisted, and served four months, contracting disease which ultimately caused his death. After the close of the war he became a pioneer of Jefferson County, Neb.

Our subject removed to Indiana with his parents when he was a lad of six years, and there the main portion of his youth was passed. He early learned the lesson of work, and willingly did whatever his hands found to do. In 1856 he moved a little

further toward the setting sun, coming to Illinois, where he broke prairie land for two years. He then was able to rent land, and to the frontier home thus prepared brought his mother and the family.

A few years after his arrival in Illinois he established a home of his own, his marriage with Miss Elizabeth Houck being solemnized March 1, 1860. She was reared to womanhood in this county, being the daughter of Jacob C. Houck, of Washburn.

The family of Mr. Benjamin D. Herrick consists of his wife and two children, both sons, William E. and Jacob B. Mrs. Herrick is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Herrick contributes of his means generously to the maintenance not only of the church, but all organizations which are calculated to uplift the people. Politically he votes the Republican ticket, but has never desired public office, although ever willing to assist those of his friends who are anxious for public honors.

DEACON EMERALD A. FISHER. Woodford County, is greatly indebted for its present wealth and high standing to the sturdy, intelligent, enterprising tillers of the soil who have been instrumental in developing its vast agricultural resources. As a worthy member of its farming population, who has contributed his quota towards its advancement, it gives us pleasure to present to the readers of this work a brief review of the life of Deacon Fisher. A representative of an honorable pioneer family, he has himself performed the pioneer task of improving a farm, which is located on section 1, Metamora Township, and is in all points comparable with the most desirable in the neighborhood.

Our subject is of New England birth and antecedents. He was born in the town of Mendon, Rutland Co., Vt., March 19, 1831, the son of Amos Fisher, who was also a native of Vermont, born in the town of Grafton, Windham County, Nov. 2, 1802. His father, Dr. Amos Fisher, was a native of Bridgewater, Mass., where he practiced medicine prior to his removal to Vermont. He went to that State during the Revolutionary War, and became one of the early settlers of Grafton, where he bought a tract of forest covered land. He practiced his profession there while he superintended the improvement of a farm, and was a resident there until his death, when the town and county were deprived of a valued citizen.

The father of our subject grew to manhood in his native town, and was there married to Lydia Stoddard, a native of Dummerston, Vt., and a daughter of Samuel and Zerviah (Richmond) Stoddard. After marriage he removed to Mendon, Rutland County, and purchased land there on which he made his home several years. In 1842 he sold his property in Vermont, and in the fall of the year started with his family for the distant State of Illinois, making the entire journey overland, fording the various streams en route, and crossing Illinois River on the ice the 1st day of December, pushed on to Woodford County. He located in Cazenovia Township, taking possession of a vacant log cabin 14x16 feet, in which the family spent the winter. During that season other families joined them from the East, and one night twenty-eight persons slept in that small habitation. Mr. Fisher purchased a tract of land on section 20, Cazenovia Township, about 1846, five acres of which were broken and fenced. His means were very limited, and he sought employment at various kinds of work to keep his family provided with the necessaries of life. Fortunately deer, turkeys, and other wild game were plentiful, and bread stuffs were cheap, so that they managed very well. The father opened a good farm, and built a comfortable home ere his death, which took place March 15, 1850. His community was then deprived of one of its most useful and respected citizens, who in all the relations of life had done his duty in a manly, straightforward way. His good wife survived him many years, dying finally in the home of our subject, May 29, 1879, at the advanced age of seventy-six years. There were twelve children born of their married life, eight of whom grew to maturity.

The subject of this sketch was eleven years old when he accompanied his parents to this State, and

he has a clear remembrance of the incidents of their journey, and of the strange pioneer life that followed their settlement in this then wild, thinly inhabited region. He attended the pioneer schools of the county, and early commenced to assist his father in the development and improvement of his farm. He remained at home with his parents till he attained manhood, and at the time of his marriage located in Roanoke Township. He resided there three years, and then bought the place where he now lives on section 1, Metamora Township. His years of steadfast and persevering toil, have been amply rewarded, and as old age approaches, it finds him well fortified against poverty and want.

Nov. 30, 1853, Deacon Fisher took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Amelia Marshall, who has proved to him an invaluable helpmate. She was born in the town of Chester, Windsor Co., Vt., to Thomas and Martha (Brooks) Marshall. For her parental history, see sketch of E. R. Marshall, on another page of this volume.

The power of honesty and integrity is well illustrated in the quiet, unpretentious life of Deacon Fisher, as all agree who know him, and all who come in contact with him, realize that he is a Christian man in every sense of the word, and practices Christianity in deed and in truth. He and his wife are valued members of the Roanoke Baptist Church, and he has served as Deacon since he was twenty years of age, in this and other churches. He loves the church with which he has been connected for nearly a life-time, and lends a ready hand in support of its interests.

JAMES C. IRVING, a well known citizen of Metamora, connected with the Woodford County Circuit Court as Clerk, a position for which he is eminently fitted, is regarded as one of the most intelligent and able of our public officials. He comes of good Scottish blood and of fine, old Revolutionary stock, his great grandfather, Daniel Irving, coming to America from Scotland in Colonial times, and becoming a prominent citizen of Somerset County, N. J., and during the struggle of the Colonists for freedom from the mother country, he took an active part in the war as a gallant officer of a New Jersey regiment. He spent the remainder of his days in Somerset County, his life having been prolonged to the advanced age of one hundred years. His son, James, grandfather of our subject, was born in Somerset County, and passed his entire life in his native New Jersey. He was a carpenter and wagon maker by trade, and also carried on farming. He also rounded out a long life, dying at the age of ninety-one. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Castner. She was a native of New Jersey, and a daughter of Peter Castner.

David Irving, father of our subject, was born in the village of Liberty Corner, Somerset Co., N. J., in the year 1820. He grew to manhood in his native State, and early learned the trade of a brick mason, which he followed in New Jersey till 1839, when he came to Illinois. He first located in Jacksonville, and was actively engaged in his calling there, that city being nothing more than a small hamlet. He erected several buildings, among them some important public buildings, including the asylum for the deaf and dumb. In 1844, he came to Woodford County, as he had secured the contract to build the court house, and at once commenced to make the brick for it, and it stands to-day as a monument of his handiwork and skill in his craft, it having been completed in the season of 1845-46. He has been a continuous resident of this county, and for many years was engaged in building and contracting, whereby he won a sufficient competence for all his wants. The maiden name of his wife was Esther E. Perry, and she was born in Chester County, Pa., a daughter of Benjamin Franklin Perry, and died in Metamora Township, March, 1873. There were five children born to her and her husband, of whom the following three are living: Our subject; Percival B., a resident of Metamora; Eugene Douglas, living in Metamora Township. The father of our subject has been a man of much prominence in this county since making his home here, taking an active part in its upbuilding, contributing to its material prosperity, and assisting in the maintenance of law and order as a civic official, at one time serving with honor as

Sheriff of the County. He has always been a faithful supporter of the Democratic party, in whose policy he is a firm believer.

James C. Irving, of whom we write, is a native-born citizen of Woodford County, Metamora Township being the place of his birth, and Dec. 10, 1850, the date of that important event in his life. In the public schools of this city the bright studious lad received the preliminaries of a sound education. At the youthful age of thirteen he commenced life on his own account as a clerk in a grocery store, and was engaged at that occupation the greater part of the time till 1867, when, ambitious to better his education, he entered Eureka College and took an excellent course of study, ranking high in his classes during the two years that he was a student in that institution, notwithstanding that he had to devote a part of his time to manual labor to pay for his board. In 1869, he left college and returned to Metamora, turning his attention to acquiring the art of printing in the office of the Woodford *Sentinel*, gaining a thorough knowledge of the craft, so that in a few years he rose to the responsible position of foreman of the office, having full charge of the local department of the paper. He gave perfect satisfaction and was retained as head of that department till the month of December, 1880, when he resigned to accept the office of Deputy Circuit Clerk. He served eight years and became thoroughly conversant with all the duties connected with the position, and doing such faithful and efficient work that it was justly considered by his constituents that no man was better qualified for the higher position of Circuit Clerk, and he was accordingly elected to his present office at the expiration of the time mentioned, and is one of the most popular officials about the court house.

Mr. Irving and Mrs. Carrie S. Kern (*nee* Hirsch) were united in marriage Jan. 11, 1877. Mrs. Irving was born in the pleasant town of Suncook, N. H., and is a daughter of F. F. and Caroline (Starrett) Hirsch.

Our subject has honored industry and intelligence in thought and example, and he has many pleasant social qualities that render him a favorite with his associates. He and his amiable wife are members in high standing of the Congregational Church, contributing liberally to its support. In politics, he is a steady adherent of the Democratic party, strongly sustaining its policy on all proper occasions.

JOHN G. ZELLER, M. D. One of the grandest of all professions is that of the physician. While the mission of the minister is to heal the wounds of the soul and comfort aching hearts, that of the physician is the almost equally important one of healing the body, and fitting it to become the proper receptacle for its tenant, the soul. The precious tidings proclaimed by the Gospel teacher would have but little effect on a diseased mind and body, unfitted to receive the messages sent to it. But the physician with his courageous mind and willing hand here steps in, and with dextrous touch and quick perceptive powers remedies, as far as possible, the condition of the body.

The grandeur and importance of his profession is fully understood by Dr. John G. Zeller. Among all the luminaries of this branch of life-work he holds no inconspicuous place, and his light is not dimmed by the reflection of those around it. For thirty-five years he has held an honored place in the affections and respect of the people, and has in this time been enabled to save many persons to longer life, and has also comforted many sad hearts when at last even skill and knowledge were of no avail.

Dr. Zeller is a child of America only by adoption, as his birthplace is Bavaria, Germany, where he was born Dec. 10, 1828. He inherits the energy and indomitable perseverance of a long line of German ancestry, and this in a great measure is the cause of his success. His grandfather was Mathew Zeller, a native also of the same place, where he passed the main portion of his life and where he passed away in 1853, at the age of eighty-five years. The son of Mathew Zeller, and the father of John G. Zeller, was Anthony Zeller, also a native

Yours truly
John G. Zeller M. D.

of Bavaria, where he lived all the days allotted to him. He was born in 1805, and was by occupation a farmer during the earlier part of his life, but later became a real-estate agent. His death is recorded as having occurred in 1873.

To Anthony Zeller and his wife Josephine there were born four children, viz.: Josephine, Mathew, Charles, and John G., the subject of this record. Josephine still remains in the Fatherland; she married Mr. Ruess, of Bavaria, where they make their home. Of their two children, one, a son, remains in Germany, but the other, a daughter, is living in Spring Bay, Ill. Mathew has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Schnitzler, of Bavaria. His second wife is also a native of the same place. He is the father of seven children. Charles is single and resides in Butler County, Neb., where he was engaged in farming, but is now retired.

Dr. Zeller first came to America in 1847 and remained two years, devoting his time in various ways until 1849, when he returned to his native land. After a four years' sojourn there his thoughts turned longingly to the country across the waters, and thither he retraced his steps in 1853, entering the college at St. Louis. Here he passed two studious terms and was then graduated, having acquitted himself with honor to his own name and credit to his teachers. Immediately thereafter he came to Spring Bay, Woodford Co., Ill., and opened an office. Like all young physicians among strangers his beginning was modest, but his intelligence and practical preparation for his life work soon met with the merited recognition, and from that time thenceforward he has occupied a prominent place among all the physicians of the county.

Dr. Zeller has been twice married, the first union being with Miss Caroline Nicholas. Four of their children are living, viz.: Charles A., George A., Josephine and Fredericka C. The eldest of these, Charles, married Caroline Miller, of Woodford County, by whom he has two children—Clara and George. He is occupied as a merchant and also as boatman on the Illinois River; George A. married Sophia Kline, of Henry County, Ill., and they are now enjoying a delightful wedding tour in Europe. Upon their return they will locate in Peoria, where he is a physician and surgeon. Like his father he is a graduate of the St. Louis Medical College, having completed his course there in 1879; the daughters remain at home.

Dr. Zeller was a second time united in marriage with Miss Caroline Winkler, of Woodford County, Ill. Her parents are natives of Germany. Of the union of Doctor and Mrs. Zeller there have been born three children, as follows: Julius C., Christine and William L. Julius is attending school at Evanston, while the others remain at home.

Mrs. Dr. Zeller and her daughters are members of the Lutheran Church, and Dr. Zeller contributes liberally to its support, as well as to the support of all societies and organizations calculated to uplift humanity and benefit the world at large. He is a member of the Woodford County Medical Association, and also of the Illinois State Association. In politics he is in sympathy with the Republican party, and uniformly votes that ticket. He has served with so much success as Supervisor of his township that he has been called on to act in that capacity for three terms.

ALMON H. DANFORTH, of the firm of C. R. Danforth & Company, bankers, Minonk, holds a prominent position among the esteemed and honored citizens of Woodford County, and it is with pleasure we place a brief synopsis of his life in this biographical volume. He is a native of New England, born in Dana, Worcester Co., Mass., June 24, 1824, being the son of Samuel and Mehitable (Marshall) Danforth, both natives of Massachusetts. In looking over the genealogical records, we find that the Danforths came from England to America many generations ago and locating in New England, at once identified themselves with its best interests, and assisted in its growth and advancement.

The grandfather of our subject, who died at an advanced age, served in the Revolutionary War. He reared a large family of children, of whom Samuel, the father of our subject, became a farmer in

Massachusetts, and lived there until, enfeebled by old age, he went to New Hampshire, and spent his last years with one of his daughters, dying at the venerable age of eighty-six years, his wife having preceded him a short time before at the good old age of eighty-two years. To this worthy couple were born a family of ten children, of whom one died in infancy, one was killed when he was twelve years old by being thrown from a horse, and the remaining eight grew to maturity, the following being recorded of them:—Henry, a Baptist minister, died in Evans, Erie Co. N. Y.; Apleton, a Baptist minister, and for ten years missionary to Assam, India, died in Philadelphia; Richard, now living in New Hampshire, is a tanner by occupation; George, a farmer, died in Minonk, where he located in 1856; Almon H.; Abigail, married Warren White and died in Bristol, N. H.; Nancy, wife of Theodore Patterson, died in Minonk; Jane, wife of Rev. Oliver P. Pitcher, a minister of the Methodist denomination, died in New York State.

Almon, of whom we write, was reared on his father's farm, and received a substantial education in the common schools of his native State, having been a diligent and observing pupil. At the age of seventeen years, desiring to work at a trade rather than to till the soil, he learned the business of a tanner and followed that occupation in Bristol, N. H., until 1856. In the spring of that year, Mr. Danforth, attracted by the great agricultural resources of Illinois, came to Woodford County, in March, and purchasing 160 acres of raw prairie land in Minonk Township courageously began its cultivation. In farming, as in all other pursuits, there are many obstacles to be contended with, but patience and perseverance are usually rewarded, and after thirteen years of successful labor our subject, who had in the interim improved his land and erected a good set of buildings, disposed of his property at an advantage and engaged in the drug business in Minonk. He continued thus occupied until 1879 when, in partnership with a nephew, Charles R. Danforth, he succeeded A. G. Danforth & Co., in the banking business under the firm name of C. R. Danforth & Co., and they have since conducted a general banking business, their bank being recognized as one of the safest and most reliable in the county. Our subject, however, has retired from the active cares of business and lives a quiet and happy life in his pleasant home in Minonk, occasionally re-visiting the scenes of his early life in New England.

The marriage of Mr. Danforth with Miss Hannah Rowe, a native of Guilford, N. H., was solemnized in that place in 1849. Mrs. Danforth's father, Benjamin Rowe, was a native of Brentwood, N. H., and was married there to Miss (Susannah Tuck) also a native of Brentwood; he followed farming during his entire life in his native place and reared a family of five children, who are all living except one who died at the age of thirty-two years; the mother died on the 24th of August, 1882, aged eighty-seven years. The father died March 1st, 1884, aged nearly ninety-four.

Mr. Danforth is a fine representative of the self-made men of this county, his property having been acquired by his own efforts, the only legacy ever devised him having been the small sum of eighteen dollars, which can scarcely be called the nucleus of his present competency. In his political views our subject is a firm Republican, and when a young man filled the local offices of his township acceptably to all, but during his later years has declined to accept all such honors. Religiously he is an esteemed member of the Baptist Church, where he has held the office of Deacon most of the time since coming to Illinois, and of which he is one of the original founders, and has since been prominently identified with its success, always contributing generously to its support.

JESSE HAMMERS was a distinguished and prominent pioneer of Woodford County, and not only witnessed almost its entire growth, but was instrumental in bringing about its present wealth and high standing. He was a man of enterprise and keen foresight, and in him this section of the country found one of its most enlightened and public-spirited citizens, who had a hand in all things that in any way benefited

his township or county. He was one of the leading agriculturists here, possessing more than ordinary practicality and skill in his vocation, and was the owner of one of the finest and best-appointed farms in Cazenovia Township, a model in all respects.

Our subject was born in Fayette County, Pa., May 7, 1804, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Hanna) Hammers. Amid the pleasant scenes of his birth he grew to a rugged manhood, continuing to make his home there till 1835, when in the prime and vigor of life he made his way to Illinois, and casting his lot with the hardy, courageous pioneers of Woodford County, became an early settler of Cazenovia Township, and from that day till the day of his death was an honored resident here. He entered a tract of wild land from the Government, located on section 32, and immediately began its improvement. His first work was to erect a log house and a double log barn, and then he had to prepare his land for tillage. After years of persistent, patient toil he brought it into a fine condition, and erected a commodious, conveniently-arranged set of frame buildings in place of the first rude structures that we have mentioned.

Mr. Hammers was twice married. The wife of his early manhood was Eleanor Buckingham, a a daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Jones) Buckingham. She was a thoroughly good woman, and devoted her life to his interests. Her death occurred Feb. 14, 1850. The maiden name of the second wife of our subject, a woman of great worth and amiability, was Ruah (Garrison) Buckingham, who was the widow of Morgan Buckingham. She was united in marriage with Mr. Hammers May 4, 1851, and during the remaining years of their wedded life, was his faithful companion, trusted friend, and devoted helpmate.

Mr. Hammers was a wise, just, and able man, and in his death, Sept. 3, 1881, Woodford County was deprived of the counsel and presence of one of her best citizens, who for nearly half a century made its interests his own. He was one of the first members of the County Agricultural Society, assisting in its organization, and, as its first President, was largely instrumental in making it a success, a power of good, and for disseminating useful knowledge among the farmers and stock-raisers of this part of Illinois, and thus raising the standard of agriculture. He took a conspicuous part in securing the passage of the Tonica and Petersburg Railway, was one of the stockholders and Vice-president of the Company, and at the meeting of the Directors to commence work on the roadbed, in the absence of the President of the road, he threw the first shovelful of dirt. He was a man of high religious principles, and one of the leading members of the Baptist Church.

DR. JOHN Q. ADAMS. The subject of this notice needs little introduction to the people of Woodford County, as he has been a resident of this part of the State for more than thirty years. After a long and prosperous career as a physician and surgeon, he retired from active practice, and is now taking life easy, in the enjoyment of the accumulations of former years of close application to his profession. He is one of the prominent and well-to-do citizens of El Paso, and Vice-president of its National Bank, in the founding of which he was largely instrumental, and since its organization has been one of its most trusted officials. He is the owner of 105 acres of choice land within the corporate lines of El Paso, besides a well improved farm.

The history of Dr. Adams indicates that he is essentially a self-made man, one who was thrown upon his own resources at an early age and has fought his own way unaided up to success. He came to Illinois in 1855 and to El Paso ten years later. Possessed of an excellent constitution and robust frame, his uniformly good health has been a valuable accessory to his mental attainments. Upon landing in Illinois, he first settled at Washington, in Tazewell County, where he followed his profession successfully ten years, and prior to going there secured a tract of land, which he improved and which became of considerable value. He believed, however, that in Woodford County there would be a wider field for his ambi-

tion. Here, as before, he soon built up a successful business as a physician and invested his capital in real estate, at the same time superintending the operations of a farm. He acquired a reputation as a man prompt to meet his obligations, and soon became prominent in financial circles, so that his importance began to be felt in all the channels of trade, while at the same time he gained precedence in social, religious and political circles.

Our subject was born near Cadiz, in Harrison County, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1818, and when but a youth was deprived by death of a father's counsel and assistance. In a will left by the latter at his death, it was stipulated that John Quincy was to remain with his mother on the farm until reaching his majority. The youth, however, was ambitious for an education, and finally, after considerable solicitation, was given his time by his mother, and he set about in earnest the achievement of his wishes. After leaving the primary school he entered Franklin College and about that time had resolved to take up the study of medicine. He taught and studied alternately, and finally began reading medicine under the instruction of Dr. A. G. Osborne. Later he entered Willoughby (Ohio) Medical College, and was graduated that same year, 1847, shortly prior to the time the school was divided, a part of it being removed to Cleveland and the remainder to Columbus.

Dr. Adams commenced the practice of his profession in Mechanicsburg, Carroll County, afterward at Van Wert, Ohio. He was there associated with Dr. Boland, and after coming to Illinois practiced at Washington, ten years alone—then entered into a partnership with Dr. Lamb, formerly of Woodford County and now deceased. This branch of the Adams family is of Scotch-Irish blood, and William Adams, the father of our subject, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, where he was partly reared, and then, with more than the ordinary ambition and courage of youth, set out alone for America in the early part of the present century. He made the voyage on a sailing vessel and was sixteen weeks on the ocean. He located first in Washington County, Pa., where he remained until becoming of age and where he was married to Miss Mary Welch. This lady was of birth and ancestry similar to his own, and after their marriage they began farming in a small way in Washington County, Pa. They remained there until after the birth of a part of their family, then removed into the wilderness of Harrison County, Ohio. They had very little means, and Mr. Adams worked on a canal boat until earning enough money to enter 160 acres of Government land. This was heavily timbered, but with the aid of his wife and children, he put up his cabin and began to clear his ground from the timber. They endured all the hardships and privations incident to the time and place, but their industry and perseverance have met with their reward, and they have succeeded in building up a comfortable home.

During the first settlement of the Adams family in Ohio, a wagon was an object of great curiosity and something not often seen. Mr. Adams became owner of one of the first vehicles of this kind that was brought into that section. It was a common occurrence for the early settlers of Harrison County to travel on pack horses to Pennsylvania, a distance of seventy-five miles, after salt, which was then a valuable commodity. The old farm is still in the possession of the grandchildren of the old pioneer. William Adams departed this life in August, 1835, at the age of sixty-five years. He was one of the pillars of the Presbyterian Church in Harrison County, Ohio, and always actively interested in its prosperity. He was assisted in his religious labors by his faithful and conscientious wife, who survived him until 1855, dying at the age of seventy-five.

Our subject was the youngest son of his parents and is the only surviving member of a family consisting of seven daughters and four sons. Two of the daughters died young; the other children all lived to be married, and the oldest attained the age of over eighty years. The Doctor was first married near his old home in Cadiz, Ohio, March 2, 1847, to Miss Chelnissa D. Cassell. This lady was a native of Maryland, as likewise were her parents. Her father, Jacob Cassell, was of German descent and spoke the language of the Fatherland fluently. He followed farming, and was married in his native State to a Miss Devilbiss. After a few years spent in their native State, they removed

to Harrison County, Ohio, locating on a farm in the vicinity of Cadiz, and there Mr. and Mrs. Cassell spent the remainder of their lives, dying at the ages of eighty-one and sixty years respectively. Both were active members of the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Adams was the only daughter in a family of four, and by her marriage with our subject became the mother of nine children, one of whom, John Quincy, Jr., the second child, is now deceased, having died unmarried at the age of thirty years; he was for some time successfully engaged in the drug business at El Paso. Jacob C. is a physician and surgeon of Gridley, McLean Co., Ill.; he was graduated from Cincinnati (Ohio) Medical College and married Miss Lois Chatbourne. Chelnissa V. is the wife of Charles W. McCoy, a real estate dealer of Wichita, Kan.; Mary Elizabeth is the wife of C. S. Hoagland, now deceased, who during his lifetime was a stockholder in and traveling agent for the Peru Plow and Implement Company; his widow and family reside in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Alice M. is the wife of James Rogers, a real estate dealer of Wichita, Kan.; Melvin A. is a farmer by occupation and makes his home with his parents; Maria M. is the wife of T. S. McCoy, a civil engineer of Wichita, Kan.; Martha; Luella is at home; Charles G. was graduated from the dental college in Chicago and is at present at home with his father. The mother of these children passed away March 3, 1887, at the age of sixty-four years. In early life she was identified with the Methodist Church, but later having experienced a change in her religious views, joined the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Adams contracted a second marriage in Nov. 29, 1888, with Mrs. Mary (Tyire) Dorward, daughter of David and Mary (Salmond) Tyire, who were natives of Scotland, where they spent their last days and where their daughter Mary was born, Aug. 2, 1827, in Forfarshire. The mother passed away prior to the decease of her husband and the latter lived to be eighty-three years of age. Miss Mary was first married in her native shire to John Dorward, whose birthplace was not far from that of her own. Soon after their marriage the young people set out for America on a sailing vessel, and after a voyage of nine weeks landed in New York City. Thence they made their way directly westward, landing in Tazewell County, this State, and later came to Woodford County, and located on a farm near El Paso. Mr. Dorward here engaged industriously in agricultural pursuits and died in 1871 at the age of forty years. There had been born to them four children, the eldest of whom, a son, Peter, is married and farming in the vicinity of Indianola, Neb.; Charlotte is married to William North and lives on a farm near El Paso, this county; William N. and John L. are dentists located in Omaha, Neb.; the former is married.

Dr. and Mrs. Adams are prominently connected with the Presbyterian Church, in which our subject has been an Elder for the long period of forty years, and to which he has contributed liberally. Politically he is an active Republican and has represented his ward in the City Council. A man liberal and public-spirited, he has always taken a warm interest in the success and prosperity of his adopted county and has contributed his full quota toward this end.

ANDREW JOHNSON. Panola Township has among her citizens many intelligent, enterprising and business-like men who are actively engaged in carrying on her great farming and stock-raising interests, of whom, we may venture to say, not one is more worthy of representation in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM than this gentleman. He has a large farm on section 31, that is considered one of the best in this locality on account of its extensive improvements, fine buildings, and ample conveniences for carrying on agriculture to its best advantage.

Mr. Johnson was born in Hanover, Germany, Dec. 10, 1827. When he was about three years old his father's death occurred, shortly after that of his mother. Thus sadly bereft at a tender age of the loving care of his parents, the poor little orphan was thrown on the cold charity of strangers, and life went pretty hard with him during his childhood

and youth. He was reared to farm labor, and when quite young had to seek work to earn his own living. He grew to a stout, self-helpful manhood, and in the summer of 1853, wisely determining to better his condition, he emigrated to the United States, taking passage in a sailing vessel at Bremen, and after a voyage of seven weeks landed in New York City, a stranger in a strange land. He hastened to Illinois and was located in Tazewell County the ensuing two years, working as a farm hand, and for a short time on the railway. April 14, 1859, he took an important step toward providing himself with the comforts of a home, by his marriage at that date with Miss Mary Gibson, a native of Jo Daviess County, Ill. Nine children have been born to them, seven of whom are living, as follows: Melinda, now Mrs. Cotton, of El Paso; George, a resident of this county; Isaac, a resident of this county; Sarah, residing in this county, is the widow of James Coverly; Tina died July 19, 1889; Charles and Arthur, who are living at home with their parents.

Mr. Johnson settled on his present farm in the winter of 1868, and has made his home here since. At that time it comprised 113 acres of wild prairie land, on which not a furrow had been turned, or any attempt made to improve it. It was only by years of sturdy, unremitting toil and excellent management on his part, that it has become to-day one of the richest and most highly improved farms in this section of the county. Its bounds have been extended until it embraces nearly 300 acres of highly cultivated soil and substantial and commodious buildings have been erected, and everything provided to lighten labor and make it an attractive place.

Mr. Johnson and his family are people of good social standing in this community, and their home is the center of an agreeable hospitality, where every guest is made to feel at ease by the true politeness of the host and hostess. Mr. Johnson is in every sense of the word a self-made man, as he came to this country without means, and has acquired a handsome competence by the exercise of those traits that mark him as a man of more than ordinary push and foresight, endowed with excellent powers of calculation and discrimination. Withal, he is a just and honest man, and his gains have never been obtained by unfair dealings, or by cheating another of his due. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that all men have confidence in him and accept his word as a bond. Religiously, he is in sympathy with the doctrines of the Lutheran Church; politically, he affiliates with the Democrats. He has done the township a good service as School Director.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM E. KRATER is a fine representative of the soldier element, that has been such an important factor in promoting the various industries of our country, and has contributed to its material prosperity in many ways. Our subject was a gallant soldier in the late Civil War, in which, while winning an honorable military record, he sacrificed health and his excellent prospects of a prosperous career in business. For several years after leaving the army he carried on farming operations in Woodford County, in Cazenovia and Linn townships, quite successfully, till his failing health required him to give up all active business. In the spring of 1884 he removed to Low Point, where he has since lived in retirement in his comfortable home. For the past four years he has been entirely helpless, a physical wreck of his former self. But he bears his affliction with the patient heroism of a true soldier, and his mind being as bright and active as ever, he still interests himself in the affairs of the world, and keeps himself well-posted as to passing events.

Captain Krater was born in Pine Grove, Schuylkill Co., Pa., on the 29th of September, 1827. His father, Jacob Krater, was born in the same county in the town of Friedenburg, Oct. 21, 1805, while his father, Anson Krater, was a native of Germany, and, so far as known, the only member of his family to come to America. He married in the Fatherland, and after the birth of eight children he and his wife brought their family to this country. They located in Friedensburg, Pa., and he there taught a German school for twenty-five years, passing the

rest of his life there. The father of our subject was the only member of the family born on American soil, and he was the only son that reared a family. He grew to man's estate in his native county, and early learned the trade of a weaver and dyer, which he followed for a few years, and then rented land and turned his attention to farming. In 1851 he came to Illinois and lived in Marshall County till 1856, and then came to Woodford County, and was prosperously engaged in farming here for several years. He now lives in retirement in Washburn. He has led a sober, industrious life, guided by excellent principles, and is justly held in regard by all who know him. The maiden name of his worthy wife was Margaret Deitzler, and she was born in Pine Grove, Pa. Her father, Jacob Deitzler, was, it is thought, born in Germany, and his death occurred in Pine Grove, Pa. The following are the names of the seven children born to the parents of our subject: William E., Mary A., (the wife of Dr. N. V. Maloney), John H., Christiana, (wife of A. T. Norris), M. Elizabeth (wife of Frank St. Claire), Jacob A., Susan, (wife of William Ball).

When our subject was a young boy his parents moved to Lancaster County, Pa., and there he was reared to a vigorous manhood, continuing to make his home with his father and mother till his marriage. He started out in life to make his own way in the world very early, as at the age of nine years he was engaged in driving horses on the tow path of the Schuylkill Navigation Canal. He was promoted to do more responsible work, and at the youthful age of fifteen commanded a boat. He continued to act in that capacity on the canal until the year 1859. In that year he opened a hotel in the town of Marietta, Lancaster County, which he managed very profitably till 1862. In that year he laid aside all personal aims and ambitions, to answer his country's call in the hour of her bitterest need, enlisting for nine months in Company H, 135th Pennsylvania Infantry, and was at once commissioned 1st Lieutenant of his company. He proved to be possessed of true soldierly qualities, and three months later was promoted to the Captainey, and commanded his company from that time till his discharge with his regiment. The most important battle in which he took an active part was that at Chancellorsville. The hardships and exposures of military life were too much for his naturally strong constitution, and never at any time has he in any measure regained his health. After his discharge the captain returned to Marietta Pa., and remained there till the 1st of December, 1863, when he came to Woodford County and gave his attention to farming in both Cazenovia and Linn Townships till, as before stated, he was obliged to retire to private life, and is now living at Low Point.

Captain Krater was married Jan. 5, 1851, to Catherine Nase, and she has been to him a true and devoted wife, carefully looking after his comfort, and in the past lightened his labors as much as possible. She is a sincere Christian, and she and her children are consistent members of the Presbyterian Church. She is, like her husband, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Marietta, Lancaster County, Dec. 16, 1828. Her father, Samuel Nase, was born in the same county, while his father, Adam Nase, was a native of England. He came to America and settled in Lancaster County, Pa., and there died. Mrs. Krater's father was reared and married in his native county, and there followed for a few years the trade of a tanner, which he had learned of his father. After marriage he engaged in farming, and in 1851 came to Illinois, and locating in Savanna, Carroll County, died there. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Wise. She was born in Lebanon County, of French parentage. She was left an orphan at a very early age, and spent her last years in Lancaster County, Pa. Mr. and Mrs. Krater have four children—Clara, Margaret, Mary Emma, and William Nase.

Captain Krater, the true, brave hearted gentleman who has sacrificed so much for his country, is well deserving a place in this Biographical Album of Woodford County, and it gives us great pleasure to transcribe to these pages this short review of his life. He has an intelligent, well-balanced mind, and other qualities that have rendered him a valued citizen and a desirable neighbor, and in his domestic relations he is all that a considerate husband and father can be. Well understanding

the value of learning, he has always taken a keen interest in educational affairs, and has done his township good service as a member of the School Board for many years. For two terms he held the office of Justice of the Peace, and discharged its duties with characteristic dignity and fairness. His interest in politics continues unabated. In early years he was a Whig, and cast his first vote for President, for Gen. Taylor. In 1860 he voted for Abraham Lincoln, and has ever since stood stanchly by the Republican party.

CHRISTIAN H. SCHERTZ. On section 5, Metamora Township, two and one-half miles north of the village, is a very desirable farm of 200 acres of choice tillage and pasture land, which is second to none in the variety and extent of its improvements, and is the seat of as cozy and substantial a home as may be found within the limits of Woodford County. The fortunate possessor of this valuable property, is the gentleman whose name is at the head of this biographical review, and here he is prosperously engaged in general farming and stock-raising, deriving a handsome income as the result of his well-directed toil.

He is a native born citizen of the county, his birth taking place in Worth Township, Nov. 22, 1844. His father, John Schertz, a sturdy pioneer of this part of Illinois, was born in France. He was there reared and educated, and after attaining manhood he came to America. Landing at New Orleans, he made his way directly to Illinois by the way of the Mississippi River, and then ascended the Illinois River as far as Peoria, then a small hamlet. He was in limited circumstances, and he sought various kinds of employment by which to earn a livelihood. About 1843 he came to Woodford County, and buying a tract of wild, timbered land in Worth Township, he became one of its early settlers. He devoted his time assiduously to the improvement and cultivation of his land, and in time developed a fine farm, on which he lived until three or four years before his death, when he sold it and moved to another farm of his in Linn Township. He had, sometime before that, bought a quarter section of wild prairie land, and subsequently eighty acres of improved land, and after his removal to Linn he purchased another tract of land comprising 240 acres of choice farming land. His death occurred in his pleasant home in Linn Township, in 1879, at a ripe old age. He was in every sense a self-made man, beginning life with no adventitious aids of fortune or favor, but by the sole heritage of a sound constitution, an active disposition and a good capacity for practical labor, he accumulated a goodly property. During his many years residence in this county, which he helped to develop, he won the respect and regard of all about him by the strength of his sturdy character, and by his kind and upright dealings. His good wife, mother of our subject, departed this life on the home farm in Worth Township. Her maiden name was Magdalena Engel, and she came from her native France to America with her parents, John and Magdalena Engel, pioneers of Woodford County. Of the nine children born of her marriage seven grew to maturity, as follows: Christian H., Catherina, Magdalena, Annie, John, Peter, Joseph F. By another marriage the father of our subject had one child who is still living, Jacob.

The subject of this sketch was born in the humble log house that his father erected on his Worth homestead soon after it came into his possession. He grew to man's estate in his native township, and gained his education in its schools. He inherited sterling habits of thrift and industry from his worthy parents, and as soon as large enough, began to assist his father on the farm, continuing to be an inmate of the parental household till he was twenty-one. At that age he went to live on land that belonged to his father in Linn Township, and worked it on shares the ensuing five years. At the expiration of that time he settled on the farm where he now resides, which is pleasantly located, as before stated, on section 5, Metamora Township. It is amply supplied with an excellent set of buildings, neatly kept and in good order, including a large frame house, and a good sized barn built in 1889, the latter being of a modern

Benjamin Grove

style of architecture, 52x36 feet, with 18 feet posts and a stone basement.

Mr. Schertz and Miss Annie Gingrich were united in marriage in 1869, and they now have five children living, namely: Elvina, Lucinda, Annie, Edward and Susie. Mrs. Schertz is, like her husband, a native of Woodford County, her birthplace being in Partridge Township. Her parents, Peter and Magdalena (Naffcinger) Gingrich, were natives, respectively, of Hesse-Darmstadt and of France, and they were early settlers of Woodford County.

As an honorable, fair-minded man, well endowed mentally and physically, with a frank, warm heart and an unsullied reputation, our subject is a credit to the citizenship of his native county. He is classed among its substantial farmers, whose practical skill in their calling has contributed to its elevation. In politics, Mr. Scherz is a Republican. Religiously, he and his amiable wife are members of the Omish Church.

BENJAMIN GROVE. The pioneers of the country are fast passing away, but their memories will be cherished long years after a stone alone remains to tell the history of their lives, and their earnest efforts to carve out a home for themselves and their children. Among those respected and esteemed by their younger friends, as well as by the few remaining of the same age, is the subject of this review, Benjamin Grove. For many years he has beheld with the natural interest of a worker, the many improvements which are rapidly changing the face of the country, and which he has assisted in bringing about. He now lives the life of a retired farmer, while his sons attend to the interests of the home place; but his existence is not an inactive one, for his interests are as great and his hands are as ready to do what they can as they were forty years ago. Truly the life of an active man is the ideal one, and when he comes to his rest, "his labors do follow him."

Benjamin Grove is a native of Augusta County, Va., and was born on the 28th of March, 1816. His father, Simon Grove, was a native of Lancaster County, Pa., but removed with his parents to Augusta County, Va., and there made his home until after his marriage with Miss Elizabeth Rinehart, whose nativity was in Pennsylvania, while that of her father was German. Simon Grove, after his marriage emigrated to Harrison County, Ind., in 1816. He had heard of the prospects of the Great West, and thought to build up a fortune there. But after years of toil he removed to Woodford County, Ill. While a resident of Indiana he was called upon to endure more than the usual trials that await the pioneer. He signed a note for a friend, and, as so often happens, was obliged to pay the claim. To do this he had to sell his stock and farming implements, and during a long, cold winter his little boys had to carry wood on their backs from the forests in order to keep from freezing. At last they broke a pair of calves, and were afterward enabled to haul their wood. Finally they secured a team and wagon, and worked by the day so as to pay their way and save for the future. In 1844, after their removal to Woodford County, the father died, the mother surviving him until the year 1858.

To Simon Grove and his wife there were born twelve children, eleven of whom are living, namely: Barbary, Jacob, Hannah, Mary Ann, Elizabeth, Abraham, Henry, Susan, Isaac, Sarah and Benjamin. Barbary first married Willis Schaffer, a resident of Indiana, who died in this county in 1842. To them were born three children. She afterward was united in marriage with Joseph Meek, a resident of this county, and a farmer of known ability and resources. They have one child. Jacob married Miss Leah Kindig, who resides in Davis County, Mo. There he is engaged in farming and also officiates as a minister in the Christian Church. They have five children. Hannah married John Taunton, a native of England, and a farmer near El Paso. There have come to bless their home two children. Mary Ann was united in marriage with Andrew Page of this county. Their home is now in the far-off West, in Wyoming Territory, where the husband and father administers to the spiritual wants of the Christian Church, and assists

in the maintenanee of his family by farming. One sad fact recorded in their family history is the total blindess of one of their six children. This little girl had one of her eyes injured aeeidentally, and in the performing of an operation lost the sight of both. Elizabeth beeame the wife of Thomas Brownfield, who formerly resided in this eounty, but now resides in Cooper County, Mo., where he is engaged as a farmer. Seven children have been born to them. Abraham first married a Miss Brownfield, and some time after her death he selected as his life partner Miss Thompson, with whom he now lives in McLean County, Ill. They have two children, and the father is oeeupied as a farmer. Henry ehose as his wife Catherine Stein, a native of this county, and they became the parents of three children. Their home is at present in Kansas, where Mr. Grove is a tiller of the soil. Susan was united in marriage with Lewis Hall, who resides in Butler County, Kan., and they have five children. Isaac was the husband of Sarah Honks, a native of this eounty, but now deeeased. Isaac served in the late War, belonging to Company G, 108th Regiment, Illinois Infantry. He was a valiant soldier, and gave his life for his eountry, falling mortally wounded at Red River, Ark., during an engagement there under General Banks. He left an orphan ehild, a daughter, who lives with her grandparents at Washburn in this eounty. Sarah became the wife of Charles Stein, a farmer of this county, and they are the parents of three children.

The early life of Benjamin Grove has been partially given in connection with that of his father. Suffice it to say with reference to his youth, that he reeeived a common-school edueation, whieh in the years of few settlers and little money, was rude and primitive, eompared with the fine edueation received by children of the present day. In the eourse of time he established home ties of his own, and his companion for many years afterward was one who in her youth was Hannah Rinehart, of German aneestry, and a native of Augusta County, Va. She was born in 1815, and departed this life in 1886. Of her union with our subject there were born six children, four of whom survive to the present, namely: Washington, William H., Elias and Sarah. Washington married Mary Dellenbaugh, of Germany, and they have five ehildren, William H. married Mary Ann Lindenfelser, a native of Tazewell County, Ill. Her ancestry was German. They are the parents of two ehildren; Sarah remains at home; Elias married Lena Lindenfelser, and they reside with her father in Tazewell County, on the old homestead. Naney J. was united in marriage with John Woodcock, and died leaving two children.

Benjamin Grove has been very suecessful in attaining the comforts of life, and many of the luxuries. He can attribute this all to his own unaided efforts, and to the assistanee of his noble helpmate. He is now in the enjoyment of exeellent physieal health, and though he has passed his three-score years and ten, bids fair to outlive many of the younger generation. For so regular have been his habits, and so free has he kept himself from all that injures the system, that he can look for many years of comparative ease and eomfort. He has a fine farm of improved land, consisting of 180 acres of prairie and forty acres of timber land. In politieal affairs he has been a strong Republiean for a life-time, and has held many local offices of prominenee.

The ALBUM of Woodford County would be incomplete without the portrait of so valuable a eitizen, so eherished a friend, so venerable a pioneer as he whose biographieal sketch is thus briefly outlined. It is therefore with pleasure that we present to our many readers a fine portrait of Mr. Grove.

JACOB MICHAEL is one of the rising, thrifty young farmers of Woodford County, and is located on one of the best 80 acre farms in all the county. Although young in years, he is already financially well-to-do, and looks forward to a prosperous and happy future. He is a native of this county, and has therefore experieneed the hardships and toil of pioneer life during the entire period of his life. But now the county has so changed its appearance that few would recognize the former uncultivated, wet and

unbroken land, in that which is now in fine condition and under admirable tillage. Thus our subject has commenced to enjoy the results of the toil on the part of himself and his father. His farm is located on section 22, in Panola Township, and our subject moved upon it in the spring of 1889.

Jacob Michael was born Nov. 28, 1859, and is the son of Philip and Anne Michael, both natives of Germany. They emigrated to America some time in the fifties, and coming to Woodford County, settled upon their present farm, situated two and one-half miles east of Secor, which has been their home ever since. The father first purchased eighty acres of land, which was covered with stumps and brush, and there had never been a furrow turned upon it. It was in a wild, primitive condition, probably about as the Indians had left it. Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Michael were the parents of eight children, of whom five remain at the present writing, namely: Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary A., Philip, and Jacob, our subject. They are members of the German Evangelical Church, and Mr. Michael has served as choir leader in the church for a long time. Politically he supports the Republican party, and votes their ticket, but has never held any office of great importance, nor has he had any political aspirations. He has now reached the seventy-second year of his age, while his wife is seventy years old.

Our subject was the youngest son of his parents, and grew to manhood amid the primitive scenes of a new country. His early education was obtained in the common schools, and has been supplemented by an extensive course of reading, and now he is considered a well-read man, as he avails himself of every opportunity to become informed upon subjects of general importance. He was reared upon a farm, and became an experienced master of the details of farm life even before he attained his majority.

A few years since, Mr. Michael cast aside the cares of bachelorhood and chose as his wife, Miss Ann R. Boland, who has become the mother of one child, a daughter, Doris. Mrs. Michael inherited the farm on which she and her husband reside, from her mother. Like his father, he is a Republican in politics, and is even at this early date considered a leader in political affairs in his native county. His farm is well supplied with farm buildings, and is valued at $70 per acre, while he is also the owner of ten acres of land in Greene Township, making ninety acres in all. He has a prosperous future before him, and the ALBUM takes pleasure in predicting for him the successful fulfillment of the many hopes doubtless cherished by himself and his friends.

JACOB H. TJADEN is denominated one of the best and most skilful farmers of Illinois. He stands among the foremost men of that calling in Woodford County, where, by uncommon capacity, energetic enterprise and shrewd foresight, he has accumulated a fortune. An early settler of Linn Township, he may rightly be considered one of its public benefactors, as it was through his example and influence that this large body of land, much of which was so low and swampy as to be considered unfit for cultivation, was drained and reclaimed from its wild state, and now constitutes one of the finest farming regions in the State. Mr. Tjaden owns here one of the largest and most substantially improved farms in this section of the county, and here he and his good wife live contentedly and happily, somewhat retired from the active labors of life, in a beautiful and orderly home.

Mr. Tjaden is a native of the province of Hanover, Germany, June 17, 1817, the date of his birth in that far-away country across the sea. His paternal grandfather, Ludwig Tjaden, and his father, Heika Tjaden, were born in the same province, and there their entire lives were passed. His father served in the German army a few years, and afterward engaged in his farming operations. He was a well-educated man and a practical farmer, and he took pains to instruct his children in agriculture as well as in books, and by early training they became model farmers. This wise, able, prudent, highly esteemed man departed this life in 1843, leaving his community to mourn the loss of its best citizen, and his family of a kind husband and

a wise, tender father. There were eleven children born to him and his wife, of whom the following six came to America: Jacob H., Theda, Mary, Ludwig, Katherina and Reinhard.

Jacob, of whom we write, attended school from the age of five years till he was fifteen, gaining in the excellent schools of his native land a substantial education. After leaving school he became of great assistance to his father in carrying on his farm work, and remained an inmate of the parental household till after his father's death. In 1857, in the prime of a vigorous, manly manhood, he came to America, having resolved to try life in this country. He set sail from Bremen, and ten weeks later landed in New Orleans, and from the Crescent City made his way by the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peoria, where he spent the winter. In the following spring he came to this county, and commenced life here by renting land in Linn Township. After the war he bought 160 acres of land in Linn Township, and from time to time he has invested his money in other land, till he now owns 720 acres of as fine farming land as is to be found anywhere in this region. When Mr. Tjaden located here he found the greater part of the township so low and flat that water stood on it almost the year round, rendering it unfit for cultivation. His keen, practiced eye saw that by drainage and proper cultivation, it would make superior soil for farming purposes, and he was the first to agitate the subject of its complete drainage. The people could with difficulty be brought to believe in the possibility of its reclamation. But he set about draining his land, and, having the law on his side, compelled others to do the same with their land, and in due course of time Linn Township was improved to its present fine condition. In 1888 Mr. Tjaden erected a fine brick house, with all the conveniences, while it is neatly and tastefully furnished, and in this retreat he and his wife are enjoying the ample fortune that he has accumulated, surrounded by their children, whom they have reared to be useful and honored members of society.

Mr. Tjaden and Miss Mana E. Hine, a native of Hanover, were united in marriage in 1844, and they have seven children living: Heika, John, Menke, Henry, Jacob, Ludwig and Hermon. The three youngest were born in America. They have one of the pleasantest and most attractive homes in Linn Township, where every comfort is provided for its inmates, and hospitality reigns supreme.

It will be seen in perusing this brief outline of the life of our subject, that he is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, thoughtfulness and discrimination, bringing a well-trained, practical mind to bear on the problems of agriculture, with which, as we have seen, he has so successfully coped. He combines with an energetic, pushing disposition, careful and methodical habits. His business transactions, though shrewd and keen, and managed with a view to profit, are always fair and perfectly honest. In politics he is a stalwart Democrat, and lends material aid to his party in this part of the county. Religiously, both he and his estimable wife are devoted members of the Lutheran Church, and they may truly be said to live up to their professions of Christianity.

CURTISS & EVANS, editors and proprietors of the El Paso *Journal*, have conducted this leading newspaper since February, 1889. It has exerted considerable influence since its establishment in 1863, and under the present management has obtained a firmer foothold than it ever before enjoyed. The paper is an eight-page, six-column weekly, and enjoys a circulation of about 1,400. Under the caption of the El Paso *Gazette*, its first issue was submitted to the public on the 1st of February, 1863. It has changed hands several times, and while successful from the start, its present proprietors have given to it a new interest and impetus which is fully appreciated by the people of this section. It has always been independent in politics and closely devoted to the interests of the people. In connection with the publication of the paper is a well-equipped job office, which receives a liberal patronage from the people in this part of the county.

George R. Curtiss was born in Galesburg, Knox

County, this State, Jan. 17, 1859, whence he was taken by his parents when a mere child to Henry, in Marshall County, later to Peoria and in 1864 to El Paso. Here the father, Samuel Curtiss, who is represented elsewhere in this volume, established himself as a merchant tailor, to which business he has since devoted his time and attention. George R., received a good education in the city schools, and when completing his studies, began his apprenticeship at the printer's trade in the office of the paper of which he is now part owner. Subsequently he worked on the Peoria *Freeman*, and afterward on the Streator *Times*, and the *National Real Estate Index*, of Kansas City, and was manager in the printing department of the latter, with which he was connected for some time. Subsequently he returned to the *Journal* office, and a year later associated himself with his present partner as part proprietor. He is a young man of correct habits and great energy, and is enabled to put his experience to excellent use.

Mr. Curtiss was married on the 28th of August, 1889, to Miss Kittie McLafferty, of Hutchinson, Kan., but formerly a resident of Woodford County, in which county she was born and reared to womanhood. She is the daughter of Joel and Sarah (Swartout) McLafferty, pioneer settlers of Woodford County. The father is deceased, and the mother resides at Hutchinson, Kan., she having removed to that place recently.

The following from the Hutchinson, Kan., *News* will prove interesting to their many friends.

"An event not long expected to be sure by Hutchinson young people, to whom the existence of Illinois beaux was unknown, but nevertheless of great importance to the high contracting parties, and of interest to our readers, took place at one of the most beautiful and pleasant homes of the city, last evening. It was nothing less than a double wedding at the commodious residence of Mrs. S. A. McLafferty, on Sherman street, east, wherein two of her cultured daughters were wedded to prominent gentlemen, from their previous home. At exactly 8 o'clock the wedding march was sounded, with Miss Adelaine Mathews at the piano. Rev. A. F. Irwin, of the First Presbyterian Church, took his place and in the most impressive manner performed the ceremony which made Miss Helen P. McLafferty the wife of Mr. Charles F. Hildreth, of El Paso, Ill., and Miss Katherine S. McLafferty the wife of Mr. George R. Curtiss, of the same place. Little Hazel Dorsey, of Chebanse, Ill., niece of the brides, acted as bridesmaid, and Master Roland Trott, of Kansas City, a cousin of the brides, officiated as the grooms' best man. After the brief ceremony a bounteous repast, most tempting and delicious, and all the more relished by the newly made benedicts because largely prepared by the delicate but practical hands of the fair young wives, was served by their mother, assisted by their sister, Miss Frane.

The wedding, while complete in all its appointments, was an exceedingly quiet affair, the guests being limited to the relatives and three or four special friends of this city. Among the former were Mr. M. Dorsey, of Chebanse, Ill., and wife (one of the sisters) and their three children; Mrs. Dr. S. E. Trott and son, Roland, of Kansas City, Mo., and Mr. and Mrs. Cooley, of this city, the two ladies last named, being sisters of Mrs. McLafferty.

A large number of expensive and beautiful presents were received, and just before taking carriages for the 9:45 east bound Rock Island train, upon which they departed for their future Illinois home, they were fairly showered with congratulatory telegrams from friends at a distance.

The parties of this important affair are of the highest social and business standing. Mr. Hildreth is a railroad man, being joint agent for the Illinois Central and the Toledo, Peoria and Western railroads at El Paso, Ill., and Mr. Curtiss is editor and publisher, of the El Paso *Journal*. Both are spoken of in the most flattering terms by friends in this city who have known them for many years. They were attired, last evening, in the fashion usually adopted by gentlemen on such occasions.

The brides looked, as brides are always expected to look, both sweet and pretty, in light brown, tailor-made traveling suits, exactly alike, point lace and diamonds. They have only been residents of Hutchinson a few months, coming some time after their mother, Mrs. S. A. McLafferty, had established herself in her present beautiful home. However,

both have made hosts of friends among our best people, and the social circles of Hutchinson regret their loss and sincerely mourn their departure.

The *News* joins their other admirers and friends in most sincere congratulations, and wishes both them and theirs, long, happy and prosperous lives."

Robert J. Evans, junior partner of the above mentioned firm, was born in Panola Township, this county, Aug. 22, 1863, and is the son of one of its pioneer settlers, Robert J. Evans, Sr., who came to this county with his wife and family, the former of whom was in girlhood Miss Naney Gregg. Both had been reared and married in Greene County, Pa., and lived there until after the birth of five children and until 1855. Upon coming to this county they settled in Greene Township, but later the father purchased a farm in Panola Township, where he resided until the fall of 1887, then removed to El Paso, where he and his estimable wife are still living, retired from active labor and surrounded by all the comforts of life. Both are members of the Baptist Church, in which Mr. Evans has been a Deacon for many years.

Robert J. Evans, Jr., was reared upon the farm, and trained to habits of industry, becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits. He obtained his rudimentary education in the common school, later was a student of the High School at Normal, Ill., and subsequently followed very successfully the profession of a teacher until the spring of 1885. Then starting out to see something of the world, he halted at Emporia, Kan., where he was for some time employed on the *Democrat*, and later was a reporter for the Emporia *Evening News*. In Emporia he was married Jan. 15, 1889, to Miss Nellie Rooke. This lady was born in London, England, April 14, 1868, and came to America with her parents—George and Ann (Harris) Rooke, about 1871. They lived for ten years in the State of Connecticut, then decided to seek the great West, and settled in Emporia where Mr. Rooke has since conducted a hotel. Mrs. Evans received careful home training and a good education, and remained with her parents until her marriage. She is a member of the Episcopal Church, while Mr. Evans is a Baptist, religiously. The firm of Curtiss & Evans, are rapidly establishing themselves in the confidence and esteem of their fellow-citizens, from whom the *Journal* receives a liberal support. It is devoted to local interests and has become quite indispensable to the people in this part of the county.

LEWIS J. JOHNSON is one of the principal citizens of his native township (Partridge), as, connected with its agricultural interests, he is one of its leading farmers, and as a public man he represents the township in the County Board of Supervisors. He is managing the old homestead where he was born, and of which he is now the possessor, with very satisfactory results, so as to be classed among the most substantial citizens of the place.

Joseph K. Johnson, the father of our subject, was born in Luzerne County, Pa., Jan. 10, 1800. His father, John Johnson, is also supposed to have been a native of Pennsylvania. The father of our subject passed his early life in his native county, and when a young man went to Ohio, and having previously learned the trade of a blacksmith, he established himself at that in Hamilton Township, Franklin County, residing there thus engaged till 1828. In that year he came to Illinois, the removal hither being made with teams, one wagon being drawn by four horses and the other by two horses. The family brought their household goods, cooking utensils and a tent, and when noon or night overtook them they camped by the way and cooked their meals. On his arrival in Illinois, Mr. Johnson and his wife and children, stopped two months with Mrs. Johnson's father on the Kickapoo, four miles from the present site of Peoria, which was then called Fort Clark. There was a fort there at the time and thirteen dwellings, of which all but one was built of logs. During that two months Mr. Johnson explored the country, and finally selected a claim in Tazewell County, ten miles southeast of Peoria, and on his removal to that place became one of the earliest settlers of that region. Two hewed

log cabins and twenty acres of land feneed and broken, eonstituted the only improvements, and after he had settled there he entered the land at the land office in Springfield. He built a shop and worked at his trade seven years, and then sold, and in 1835 eame to what is now Partridge Township, Woodford County, and east in his lot with the few pioneers that had preceded him to this then wild and lonely eountry. He bought a tract of land on which there were no buildings, so he erected a log eabin, into whieh his family moved and resided there a number of years. He then purehased another place on the same section, on whieh he built up a comfortable home, of whieh he was an inmate until in August, 1859, when he was removed by the hand of death. During his life he oeeupied an honorable plaee among the energetie, intelligent, self-reliant, self-sacrificing pioneers of Woodford County, and industriously aided them in its development, and his name and memory will justly be held in reverence by coming generations, as he was one of the oldest settlers of Central Illinois. His wife, to whom he was married in 1825, is distinguished as being one of the oldest settlers of Central Illinois, now living. At the venerable age of eighty-two years she enjoys good health, and her mental faculties are unimpaired. She possesses a bright mind, is a good talker, and relates with vivacity many interesting ineidents of pioneer life. Her maiden name was Naney Caldwell, and she was born in Franklin County, Ohio, Feb. 25, 1807. Her father, William Caldwell, was a native of Maryland, where his father, Patriek Caldwell, a native of Seotland, had settled in Colonial times, and there spent the remainder of his life. Mrs. Johnson's father went to Ohio when a young man, and was an early settler of Franklin County. He bought a traet of land in the primeval forests, eight miles from Columbus, and ereeted a log house, and in that humble pioneer abode Mrs. Johnson was born. He eleared quite a farm, on which he resided till 1827, and in that year he eame to Illinois, and after residing one year in Kickapoo, made a elaim in Greenland Township, Tazewell County, and became one of the earliest pioneers to settle in that region, and eontinued his residenee there till death. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Brown, and she was born in New Jersey, and died on the old homestead in Tazewell County. She was a daughter of Greer Brown, a native and life-long resident of New Jersey. He married Jane Campbell, and they reared a large family. The mother of our subject lived with her parents till her marriage, and was instrueted in all the household duties and aeeomplishments that were the neeessary part of a young girl's edueation in those early days, and for some years after her marriage she spun and wove all the eloth used in her family. She has four ehildren living: John, a resident of Partridge Township; Alexander, a resident of Indian Territory; Ann, the wife of George L. Jones, of Partridge Township; and our subject.

The latter, the youngest member of the family, was born in Partridge Township, on the farm where he now lives, Jan. 9, 1851. He was eight years of age when the sad death of his father deprived him of a father's care and wise guidanee. He remained with his mother, and by her was well trained in the duties of life and in all that goes to make an honorable man. He gleaned a good edueation in the publie sehools, and as soon as large enough assisted in the farm work, and with the exeeption of four years, has always lived on the homestead. He early displayed a special aptitude for agrieultural pursuits, and has developed into a very skillful farmer. His buildings are neat and well arranged, his fields are earefully tilled and yield abundant harvests, and there is every evidenee of the good order and thrift whieh show that a thoroughly methodical, praetieal man has charge of affairs.

In 1879, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Isabelle Snyder, and he thus happily seeured an amiable eompanion and a good helpmate, one who is a true home-maker. She was, like himself, born in Partridge Township, and is a daughter of Isaac and Hannah (Leighton) Snyder. For parental history see sketeh of J. J. Snyder. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three ehildren: William Isaac, Arthur and May.

Partridge Township is fortunate in its eitizens, who are wide-awake, thoughtful, far-sighted men, who advanee the public good while working for private interests, and prominent among these is our subject, a manly, straightforward, clear minded

young man. His fellow citizens, among whom his entire life has been passed, regard him so favorably that they have twiee seleeted him to fill the responsible office of Supervisor, to represent this township on the County Board of Supervisors, electing him first in 1888, and re-electing him in 1889. In polities he stands high in the eouncils of the Demoeratic party in this seetion of the eounty.

ADAM SMISER, a prominent and highly respeeted citizen of Palestine Township, engaged in farming on section 33, is of German birth. He was born in the provinee of Byron, Germany, on the 15th day of April, 1830, and is the only one of the family that ever became a resident of the United States. He reeeived his education in his native land, and when a young man determined that he would try his fortune in America, where he believed better opportunities were furnished young men than the countries of the old world afforded. On leaving home he went to Havre, Franee, where he embarked for America and at length safely arrived in New York City. He reached Illinois in 1854, loeating in Chieago, where he remained for a few months, and then went to Tazewell County, where the sueeeeding three years were spent. He began life in the new world as a day laborer, following any employment by whieh he might earn an honest dollar. In 1857 he became a resident of Woodford County, where he has since passed the remainder of his life. Ten years later, with the earnings which he had aecumulated, he purchased a farm on seetion 33, Palestine Township, where he still makes his home.

Mr. Smiser was married in Peoria, Ill., the lady of his choiee being Miss Margaret Hutch, a native of Rhine, Byron, Germany, who came to Ameriea when twenty-two years of age. They became the parents of six ehildren, three sons and three daughters: Mary, Adam, William, John, Eliza and Phœbe, all of whom are married, exeept William, and have left the parental roof. The mother was ealled to her final rest on Nov. 19, 1870, her death oecurring at her home when forty-two years of age. The seeond marriage of Mr. Smiser was with Mrs. Udelwine Ridner (her maiden name was Moritz), who was born and reared in Germany, where she married her first husband. At his death he left three ehildren, as follows: Thedonia, Charles and Tilda. Mrs. Smiser is a member of the Lutheran Chureh, and in polities Mr. Smiser is a Democrat. He is numbered among the early settlers, and is one of the self-made men of the county. He not only began life in this eountry with no eapital, but on reaehing Chieago was $5 in debt. He had determined, however, to make for himself a home, and with eharacteristic energy began searching for employment. He worked for some time as a day laborer, but from that humble position has risen to one of affluenee. To his own efforts may be attributed his entire sueeess. His boundless energy and resolute will have overeome all disadvantages and adversities, and he is now one of the well-to-do farmers of the eommunity in which he has so long made his home. His farm eomprises 160 aeres. Aside from his business he has found time to aid in the promotion of publie enterprises, and has given his support to those interests whieh he believes to be for the good of the community. A worthy and valued citizen and early settler, he well deserves a representation in the permanent history of his adopted eounty.

CORNELIUS D. BANTA was one of the earliest pioneers of Woodford County, and was for many years aetively identified with its extensive farming interests, having developed and improved one of its finest farms, pleasantly located a half mile northwest of Metamora. He eame to this eounty in the very earliest days of its settlement while it was still in a state of nature, the few pioneers who had preceded him having made but little impression on the wild prairies, forests and timber openings, nor had they brought about any considerable degree of eivilization. It was his good fortune, therefore, to witness the entire growth

Cornelius D. Barta

of the county to its present rank and importance as one of the leading counties in this part of the State. His memory will be held in reverence for his work as a pioneer in developing the rich agricultural resources of this region, and thus contributing to its material welfare.

Mrs. Elizabeth Banta, widow of the late Cornelius D. Banta, is a native of Ohio, born seven miles from the town of Circleville. She comes of an old Pennsylvania family. Her father, Jacob Strawser, was born near Harrisburg, that State, and his father, John Strawser, was also a native of the Keystone State, of which his father, great-grandfather of subject, is supposed to have been a native. Mrs. Banta's grandfather removed from his Pennsylvania home to Ohio, and was an early settler of Pickaway County. He bought an extensive tract of land near Delphi, became very prosperous, and besides developing a large farm, gave each of his seven children 160 acres of improved land. He spent the remainder of his life on his Ohio homestead, where his wife also died. Mrs. Banta's father was a small boy when his parents moved to Ohio, and he was there reared and married. He inherited the old homestead, and lived on it till 1849; then selling it, he came to Illinois with his family by the way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. He lived one year in Pike County, and then taking up his residence in Adams County, sickened soon after his arrival and died. He was a man of sterling worth, of much practical ability, and one who was in every way a desirable citizen. The maiden name of Mrs. Banta's mother was Rebecca De Haven, and she was born in Northumberland County, Pa. Her father, Peter De Haven, was born in the same State, and during some period in his life he removed to Ohio, and was an early settler of Ross County, where he spent his last years. After her husband's death, Mrs. Banta's mother bought a homestead of 160 acres, in Adams County, and resided there a few years; then selling her property there, she moved to Kansas, the removal being made with teams. She lived a few years near Fort Scott, and then crossed the plains and Rocky Mountains overland, and located about twenty miles from Portland, Ore., where she died May 17, 1873. There were seven children born of her marriage, Leanni, William, Elizabeth, Peter, John, Jacob, Sylvania Peter, Jacob and Sylvania went to Oregon with her. Mrs. Banta lived with her parents till her first marriage in Ohio, in 1849, to Lewis T. Johnson. He was a native of Vermont, and a son of Stephen N. and Susan (Blair) Johnson, also natives of the Green Mountain State. Mr. Johnson was quite young when his parents moved from their New England home to Ohio, where he was reared to man's estate. In September, 1849, he came to Illinois with his bride, and located in Pike County, but one year later moved to Adams County. In 1853, ambitious to try life in the gold fields of California, he started for that region by the Panama route, but the vessel on which he sailed was blown up and he lost his life ere he reached his destination. His wife was thus left a widow with two small children to care for, Lewis N. and William M.; the latter of whom died Oct. 23, 1878. She lived in Adams County till 1860, and in that year, August 23, her marriage with Cornelius Banta was solemnized.

Mr. Banta was a native of Kentucky, born in Mercer County, July 3, 1809. His father, Jacob Banta, was a native of New Jersey, as was his grandfather, Albert Banta. The family originated in Holland, and came to America in early colonial times. The first one to cross the waters to this country was Epke Jacob Banta, a farmer of Harlingen, East Friesland, who embarked from Amsterdam on an American-bound vessel, in 1659, accompanied by his wife and five sons. He settled at Bergen, now a part of Jersey, and his descendants were citizens of New Jersey City, for several generations. Albert Banta, the grandfather of Cornelius, was one of the fifth generation, and was born in Hackensack, N. J. He married Magdalena Van Voorhes, a descendant of an old Dutch family, and they joined the Dutch Reformed Church, in which he served as deacon and elder. In 1784, he sold the farm he had inherited, located in Hackensack, N. J., and moving to Mercer County, Ky., became one of its pioneers, settling a mile from Harrodsburg, and there he and his wife died in the fullness of time. Jacob Banta, father of Cornelius, was born in Hackensack,

N. J., March 13, 1771, and was fourteen years old when he accompanied his parents to Kentucky. He married in that State Mary Banta, daughter of David Banta, and having inherited his father's farm near Harrodsburg, made his home on it till 1832. Coming to Illinois in that year, he bought a tract of land near Washington, Tazewell County, and was a resident there the ensuing few years. After that he sold his property and bought a farm about a mile northwest from town, which he made his dwelling place until his death.

His son, Cornelius D., was reared amid the pioneer scenes of Kentucky, and in his youth learned the trade of a wagon maker, which he followed in his native State till 1832, when he came to Illinois, the removal thither being made with teams. He settled in that part of Tazewell County now included in Woodford County, and, in 1833, made a claim to land now included in the farm where his family resides, and when it came into the market, he went to Springfield on horseback to enter it at the land office. Another man wanted the same piece of land, and Mr. Banta hearing that he intended to enter it, started for Springfield in the evening, and riding all night arrived there a short time before his competitor, and so succeeded in securing a clear title to his land. He made it his home for nearly half a century, and in that time evolved a valuable farm from the wild prairies, placed its 243 acres under excellent cultivation, erected substantial frame buildings and otherwise greatly improved it.

Mr. Banta was first united in marriage, in 1839, with Miss Elizabeth Stine, their wedding being solemnized in Worth Township, this county. Of this union, five children were born, three of whom are living, viz.: George W., Charles D. and Cornelius J. The wife was a daughter of George and Elizabeth (De Haven) Stine, natives of Pennsylvania, and she departed this life in 1859. Mr. Banta was afterward married, as before stated, to Elizabeth Strawser.

By the death of Mr. Banta, Nov. 28, 1878, the township and county lost one of their best citizens, a man of unswerving rectitude of character and blameless life, who had always interested himself in the welfare of his adopted home, and had done all in his power to secure its highest interests. He was happy in his domestic life, and his wife found in him a tender husband, and his four sons, A. Lincoln, John L., Frank D., Archie D., found in him a wise, indulgent father. Ella May, the only and idolized daughter, was taken from her earthly home when four years and five months old. Mr. Banta was kind and considerate in his dealings with his neighbors, and they held him in high regard. He was deeply interested in political matters, and in his early years affiliated with the Democratic party; but his sentiments with regard to the slavery question not being in harmony with those of his party, he joined the Republican ranks, and was ever after a stanch supporter of the policy of that party.

Mrs. Banta was an invaluable aid to her husband in his work, and is now passing her declining years on the old homestead with her children, enjoying the competenee that she helped to procure. She is a woman of much native force of character, kind in heart and manner, cheerfully giving assistance where needed, and charitably inclined toward all.

A portrait of Cornelius D. Banta adds to the value of the ALBUM, and will be treasured, not only by those nearest and dearest to him, but by the many who were his associates in social and business circles, and who admired him for his estimable qualities of heart and mind.

JACOB McCHESNEY. Among all the foreigners who have come to America in search of a home, few have adapted themselves to their surroundings with greater celerity, or proven to be better citizens than the Scotch. They are notably thrifty, persevering, and at the same time pleasant additions to the society of a village or city. The McChesney family are of Scotch origin, but many years have elapsed since the first of that name crossed the Atlantic to seek a home in the United States. The grandfather of our subject died while yet in the prime of life,

his death occurring a few months prior to the birth of his son, Lewis McChesney, father of our subject.

Lewis McChesney, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in his native place, Rensselaer County, N. Y., and was there united in the bonds of matrimony with Mary A. Bulson, a native of the same county. There he continued to reside after his marriage, being occupied in farming, and also for a time in the hotel business. He died where all his life had been spent, when he was only thirty-eight years of age, his death occurring in April, 1851. His wife survives him and makes her home with her son, Jacob, in this county.

To Lewis and Mary McChesney were born five children, four living, whose names are here given: Jacob, the eldest, is the subject of this sketch; Lewis H. is a resident of Kossuth County, Iowa; Harmon now makes his home in Rockingham County, Va.; John, the youngest, is a resident of Roanoke, Ill.

Jacob McChesney was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., the date of his birth being March 18, 1835. As above stated, he is the son of Lewis and Mary McChesney. His early education was such as was received by the youth of that day, and laid the basis of his future success. After leaving school he learned the trade of a carpenter. He had taken a preparatory course of training and study at the Academy in North Adams, Mass., and was anticipating a course at Williams' College, but circumstances prevented him from entering, and instead of being a pupil, he himself became a teacher, his education having fitted him for a successful teacher and instructor. He also engaged in his trade.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject was his marriage which occurred Nov. 9, 1853, when he was united with Elsie L. Davison. She was a native of Grafton, Rensselaer County, as was her husband, and was the daughter of J. M. Davison, who resides in Eureka, Ill. He came to the West in 1855 and settled in Clayton Township, where he followed the occupation of farming, and at present is the owner of 140 acres of finely cultivated land.

Mr. and Mrs. McChesney have been blessed with six children, whose names are herewith recorded: Louisa E., who is the wife of William S. Barnett, of Kansas City, Mo.; Cassius M., a resident of Clayton Township; Horace J. also a resident of Clayton Township; Edward D., who yet lives at home; Mary E. and Sarah L. who are also under the parental roof.

Politically, Mr. McChesney is a Democrat, and religiously, he and his family are members of the Baptist Church. He has officiated as Town Clerk, and is now Justice of the Peace. He is a Royal Arch Mason, and for many years has been Master of the Robert Morris Lodge, No. 247, A. F. & A. M., at Minonk, having been a member of the Masonic fraternity since the year 1857.

During the years spent in this county, Mr. McChesney and his family have endeared themselves to all the people who have met them, and wherever their names are mentioned it is always with the respect that is due those who have labored assiduously and patiently to provide for old age, and who have not neglected that which is far more precious than fortune, more to be sought after than pearls or royal diadem—the unperishable lustre of a good name.

HENRY EFT came to Illinois in 1869 a comparatively poor man. He did not at first invest in land, but for two years engaged in farming as a renter, south of El Paso. He then came to Panola Township, and bought a tract of land on section 26 that is now included in his present farm, and since that date he has been numbered among the practical, sagacious farmers and stock-raisers of this section of Woodford County, who have contributed to its advancement. His land when it came into his possession (the second purchase of 160 acres), was a barren tract of wet, swampy prairie, and seemed hardly fit for cultivation. But he shrewdly saw its possibilities, and by patient labor carefully drained it and prepared it for tillage, and it proved to be very fertile, and to-day yields him bounteous harvests in return for the care and money he has spent on its improvement. To his original 100 acres he has

added more land, and now has a valuable farm of 310 acres of finely cultivated land, provided with ample buildings, and all necessary improvements.

Mr. Eft comes of good old New Jersey stock, and is himself a native of that State, born in Salem County, Nov. 29, 1831, a son of John and Ann (Hanthorn) Eft, natives of New Jersey, the Eft family being among the early settlers of that State. His father is now living in Salem County, and although he has attained the remarkable age of ninety-four years, and has been a hard worker all his life, he is still hale and hearty. He enjoys the respect and veneration of all about him, as his long life has been well spent, and he has always walked in the path of honesty and uprightness.

Our subject was reared to man's estate amid the pleasant scenes of his birthplace. His educational advantages were not such as are enjoyed by the youth of to-day, but he made the best of them, being desirous of securing a good knowledge of books, and in early life he attended the subscription schools, and after the schools were made public he was a student in them for awhile, but the most of his learning he has acquired without the assistance of instructors, as he has always been fond of reading, and has been a close observer of men and events. March 30, 1854, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Haines, whom he had chosen to walk by his side to assist him in his life-work, and aid him in building up a home. She is a native of the same county as himself, and a daughter of John and Harriet Haines, also natives of New Jersey. Of the nine children that have blessed the union of our subject and his wife, six are living. John, William, Ann (wife of William Kingdom), Joseph, George, Elizabeth. Those deceased are Charles, Frederic, and one that died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Eft farmed on rented land in New Jersey a number of years, and then came, as we have before mentioned to Illinois in 1869. We have seen that he has been very much prospered since locating in Panola, and besides increasing the size of his farm, having it well-drained and putting it under admirable tillage, he has erected substantial buildings and a fine windmill of the Eureka make. Since he settled here Panola Township has greatly improved. There were practically no roads here at the time of his arrival, and there were many sloughs and rough places to cross, and the streams were some of them unbridged. Since then great changes have been wrought, waste pieces of prairie have been transformed into good farms, other farms have been improved, and in many cases a better class of buildings have been erected, and throughout the township a general air of neatness, thrift and prosperity prevails. Our subject may be proud of the fact that he has had a hand in bringing about this state of affairs. He and his wife have shared together the hardships necessitated by their pioneer labors, and now, while yet in life's prime, are together enjoying the fruits of their early toils.

A self-made and a self-educated man, possessing in a high degree those attributes that win success in any walk in life, and noted for his integrity in business, our subject occupies an important place in the community. Public spirited and liberal he contributes to its advancement in every direction, favoring all schemes for the improvement of township or county, and giving of his means to support religious institutions, although not a church member. He has been School Director, and has thus furthered the cause of local education. In politics he belongs to the old Jacksonian Democracy.

MARTIN HERR occupies a leading position among the intelligent and enlightened citizens of Panola Township, who are actively engaged in farming and stock-raising within its borders, and are fast extending its great agricultural interests. He is a native of the German province Alsace, which, at the time of his birth, March 7, 1847, was under the dominion of France. He is a son of a former well-known and honored resident of Woodford County, the late Michael Herr and his wife Christina Herr, who were also natives of Alsace. In the spring of 1854 they emigrated to the United States with their family, taking passage in a sail vessel, and landing in

New York on the first day of March. The family proceeded directly to Ohio, and for three years made their home in Holmes County, that State. They then came to Woodford County, and the father for a time rented a farm in Greene Township, and finally bought a place on section 18, Panola Township, on which he settled in 1864, and there dwelt in peace and happiness, plenty and comfort, till the day of his death in the month of February in 1878. The mother is now a resident of Piper City, where she is held in general respect by all who know her, for her worthy attributes. She has attained the venerable age of eighty years. Of her pleasant wedded life three children were born: Michael, living in Ford County; Salome, the wife of Philip Scheer, of Clay County, Neb., and our subject. The father was one of the early settlers of Panola Township, and while redeeming a farm from the wild prairies he and his wife had many hardships to undergo. He began life a poor man, but left a valuable estate, having been much prospered in his life-work. In his death the county lost one of her best citizens, and the Lutheran Church one of its most zealous members, and the Democratic party an earnest supporter.

He of whom this sketch is principally written, was in his eleventh year when his parents brought him to their pioneer home in Woodford County. He received a fair education in the local schools, and a careful training at home that has made him a true, manly man and a good citizen. From the time he was fifteen years old till he attained his majority, he had the management of his father's farm, and though so young showed uncommon judgment and capability, and under his care the farm was kept in a good condition, and yielded abundant harvests and a good income. After he gave up the charge of the homestead he continued to make his home there till he established one of his own. He settled on his present farm in the spring of 1878, and busy years of unremitting labor have followed, in which he has wrought a great change. Many valuable improvements have been made, and the 220 acres of choice land now constitutes one of the best farms in this locality, with soil well tilled and capable of producing enormous crops, neat and substantial buildings adorning the place, and everything that could be desired to make a pleasant, comfortable home. He also has a farm of 180 acres on section 27, also well improved.

Mr. Herr gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness to his wife, for her share in securing the handsome competence that they enjoy. They were united in marriage Feb. 11, 1873, and by their union they have eight children, namely: George W., Louis P., Frederic F., Ellena, Bertha, Ella, John M. and Albert H. Mrs. Herr's maiden name was Lolotoo C. Dyke. She was a native of Ohio, and a daughter of John C. and Ellen Dyke, natives of England.

Mr. Herr and his wife are very kind, pleasant, hospitable people, taking an active interest in society and are very much liked by the entire community. Mr. Herr, although a good citizen, possessing public spirit, and desiring to aid in the improvement of his township or county, has refused all public honors, excepting that he allowed himself to be elected School Director. He takes an intelligent view of the political questions of the day, and sides with the Democratic party generally, although in local matters he votes for the man, without regard to his political antecedents. He has a well-informed mind, as he is a constant reader when not occupied in looking after his affairs.

THOMAS J. HURD, coming to Panola Township in 1866, has since that time been an important factor in developing its great agricultural resources, and is to-day numbered among its most deserving and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers. He may well be classed as a pioneer of this region, for his fine farm on section 25 is the result of his pioneer labors in eliminating it from a wild, swampy tract of prairie.

He is a native of Oswego County, N. Y., Aug. 30, 1833, being the date of his birth. He is the only son of James and Sallie (Thompson) Hurd, natives of New York, and his father being dead, his mother is now a welcome inmate of his household, and is spending her declining years sur-

rounded by every comfort that filial love can devise. Our subject was reared to man's estate in his native county, and he is mainly self-educated, his school advantages not being such as the youth of to-day enjoy, his attendance at school being limited mostly to the short winter term, in schools where teachers were somewhat deficient in learning themselves. But our subject is naturally fond of reading, and taking an intelligent interest in good literature, has managed to keep himself well informed on all topics of general discussion. When about seventeen years old he began to learn the trade of a blacksmith, and worked for $5 a month and board till he had acquired a thorough knowledge of the trade, which he followed some six years. Since then he has devoted himself to agriculture. In 1866, accompanied by his family he emigrated to to Illinois, to take advantage of the fine facilities for farming offered by the rich soil of Woodford County. Selecting Panola Township as a desirable place of residence, he bought a quarter of section 25, on which he is still residing. Not a furrow had been turned, and much of the land was low and wet. It required an immense amount of patient and persevering labor to make it of any value as a farm, but our subject was equal to the task, and went to work with an indomitable will and unflagging energy, and he may now point with pride to what he has accomplished. It is to-day as well improved and as well cultivated a farm as is to be found in the neighborhood. It is supplied with neat and substantial buildings, is carefully drained, there being from 1,000 to 1,200 rods of tile laid within its bounds, and is stocked with cattle of good grades. Mr. Hurd is the proprietor of 400 acres of land in all, his homestead containing 280 acres, and he has 120 acres of choice farming land north of El Paso.

The marriage of Mr. Hurd with Miss Julia Stephens was solemnized Feb. 12, 1855, and of their pleasant union four children have been born, two of whom are living, Estella and Burton; those deceased are James and Nettie. Mrs. Hurd is also a native of Oswego County, N. Y., born Jan. 9, 1834, a daughter of Harlow and Betsey (Mandival) Stephens. Her father was a native of New Hampshire, and her mother of Rensselaer County, N. Y., both being of English ancestry. Mrs. Hurd was reared to womanhood in her native county, and was there married. She was one of three children born to her parents, of whom her sister Antoinette is dead, and her brother Henry is a resident of Oswego County, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Hurd occupy a high social position in this community, and enjoy an extensive acquaintance, among whom they have many warm friends, and their attractive home is the center of that true hospitality that "welcomes the coming and speeds the parting guest." Mr. Hurd is known to be a man of unswerving rectitude of character, and in him are conspicuous those honorable traits that command universal esteem and respect. In the twenty-three years that he has been a resident of this locality, his public spirit has been evinced on many occasions when he has afforded material support to feasible schemes for improving the township or county. He has taken an active interest in educational matters and has served as School Director, and in that capacity did what he could to secure good schools for the children of this place. In his political views, he is an intelligent advocate of the Democratic party, but in local matters, he votes for the man he considers best fitted for the office, be he Democrat, Republican, or the representative of any other party.

JAMES RENDER came to Woodford County nearly a quarter of a century ago, cast his lot with its sturdy, enterprising farmers and for several years engaged in agricultural pursuits, finally locating in Panola Township, where he developed a good farm, and has been so prospered in his labors as to be able to retire on a competence, and spend his declining years free from the cares and toils of his early life, in the enjoyment of every comfort that money can procure.

Mr. Render is a native of Yorkshire, England, and was born Feb. 14, 1828, a son of William and Ann Render, also natives of England. He was the fourth son in the family, and when he was in his

fifth year he had the sad misfortune to lose his mother, and when he was ten years old his father died; and after that he had to care for himself, and had a hard struggle to get along. He thus early became inured to the hardships and trials of life, and became manly and self reliant far beyond his years. His boyhood and the opening years of his manhood were passed in his native land on a farm. In 1851 he resolved to emigrate to the United States to better his condition if possible, and he took passage on a sail vessel at Liverpool, and after an ocean voyage of nearly six weeks, landed in New York City. He made his way to the State of New Jersey, and the ensuing thirteen years he farmed and worked by the day, prudently saving up his earnings, and in 1865 came to Illinois to invest his money in the rich farming lands of Woodford County. He bought land in Palestine Township, but did not reside on it very long, however, before his removal to Panola Township, where he settled on section 24. He made his residence there till 1883, and in that year removed to that part of the same section where his present home is. He owns a quarter of the section, which has been improved into a good, exceedingly productive farm, on which are all the necessary buildings, and it is supplied with machinery and all the conveniences for carrying on farming to the best advantage. Mr. Render has given up the supervision of his farm, and from its rental derives a fine income. He was $150 in debt when he came to America, and besides had a family dependent upon him for support. Notwithstanding these discouraging circumstances, he bravely faced the hardships before him, and set to work with a good will to mend his fortunes. His attempts were crowned with success and aided by a helpful wife, he has acquired a goodly amount of property by the quiet force of persistent labor, directed by sound common sense.

Mr. Render has twice entered the matrimonial state. He was first wedded in England to Jane Mitchell, who bore him three children, two of whom are living—Ann, widow of Thomas Hustwaite, residing in New Jersey, and Mary, wife of Benton Ord; they live in Somerset County, N. Y. Our subject was married to his present wife, formerly Ann Coleman, Dec. 3, 1853, and to them have come eight children, six of whom are living—John C., William J., Michael H., Jane (wife of Walter Nethercott), Edward G. and Thomas J. Mrs. Render was born in Ireland and reared in Scotland. She emigrated to the United States in 1851, and made her home in New Jersey, where she met and married our subject. She is a daughter of Michael and Catherine (McCormick) Coleman.

Mr. Render has been an interested spectator of much of the improvement of the county, and not only that but he has contributed his quota to its advancement as a rich agricultural centre. A self-made man, he has been prospered in his life career and his course has been commendable, marked, as it has been, by honest endeavor, hard toil, and integrity of word and act. He and his wife and children are faithful members of the Catholic Church, cheerfully contributing of their means to its support, and their daily lives witness the sincerity of their religious beliefs. Mr. Render is independent in his political views, generally voting for the man whom he considers the best qualified for office irrespective of party. He has served Panola Township as School Director several years, and has in every way endeavored to promote its highest interests.

HORACE MAJOR, a native-born citizen of Woodford County, represents its farming and stock growing interests in Panola Township, where, on section 16, he has a well-stocked and well-ordered farm, that is considered one of the best managed estates in the neighborhood. Our subject was born Aug. 16, 1848, and was reared to manhood in Olio Township, of which his father was an early pioneer. He comes of good stock, being of mingled French and Irish blood, the paternal side of the house originating in sunny France, and the maternal ancestry springing from the sod of the Emerald Isle. Some of his progenitors were pioneers of Kentucky, and it is thought that both of his parents, William and Elizabeth (Dickinson) Major, were born in that

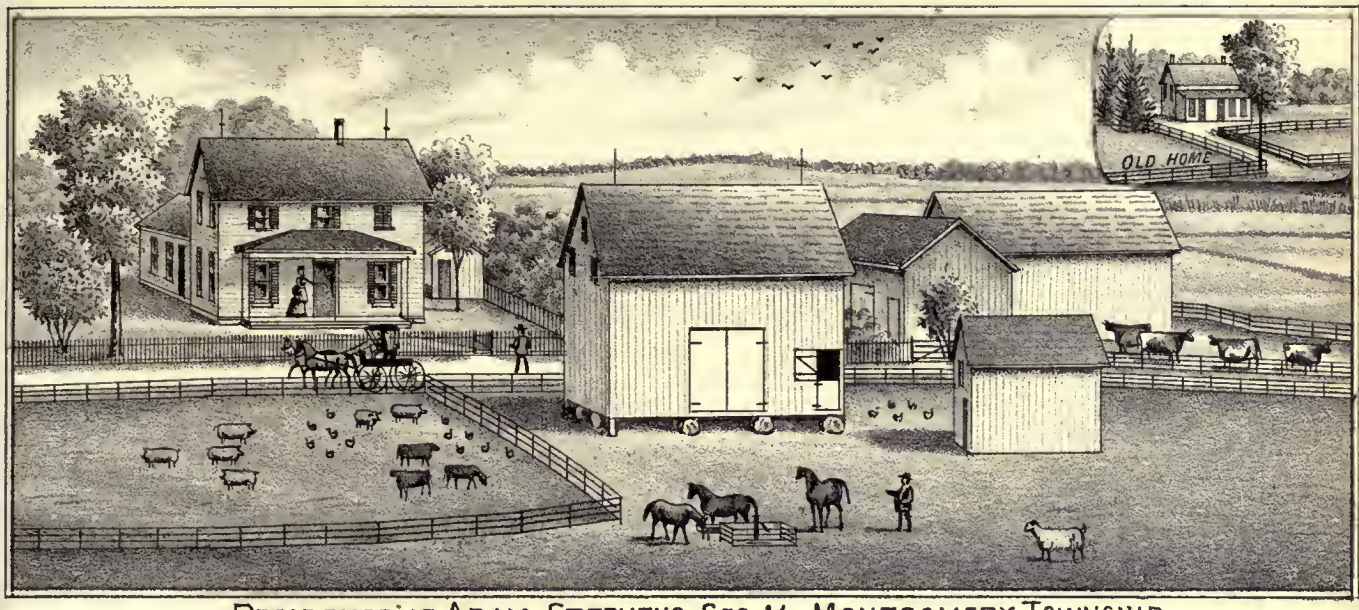
State. They came to Woodford County when young people and were married here, and subsequently became early settlers of Olio Township, and Mr. Major eliminated a farm from the wild prairies and groves from that place. To him and his wife were born in their pioneer home seven children, four of whom are living, namely: Horace; Allen A., a resident of Livingston County; Charles E., a resident of this county; Benjamin, a resident of Forest, Livingston County.

Our subject received his education in the early public schools of this county, and being of a thoughtful mind, and having a liking for books, he has acquired a good deal of knowledge since leaving school, and can converse intelligently on all topics of general interest. He was the oldest of the family, and had, consequently, to begin early in life to assist his father in the pioneer task of clearing and improving a farm, and thus gained much valuable experience in his younger years that has been of use to him since he began the pursuit of agriculture on his own account, and has doubtless contributed to his success as a farmer and stock raiser. The most of his life has been passed in this county of his birth, with the exception of three years spent in Livingston County after his marriage. At the expiration of that time he located on his present farm in the spring of 1874. It comprises 160 acres of very productive farming land, whose carefully tilled soil gives forth abundant harvests, and the excellent set of buildings and neat surroundings make it an attractive place. Our subject is to all intents and purposes a self-made man, and in the accumulation of his property and the building up of his home he has been materially assisted by his wife, who has been a true counselor and helpmate since their marriage was consumated Oct. 5, 1869.

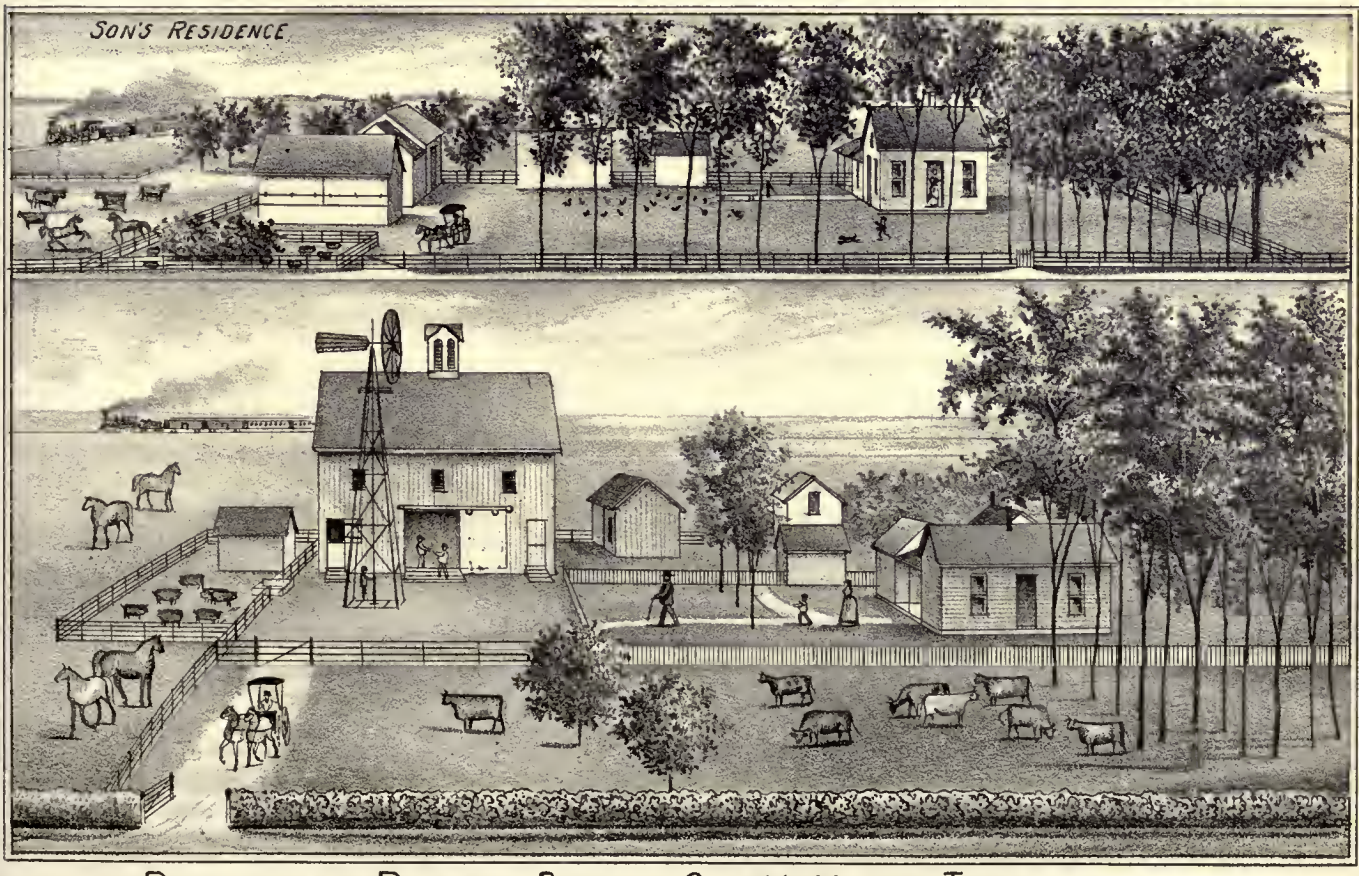
Mrs. Major's maiden name was Lucy A. Boyd, and she was born in Christian County, Ky., June 14, 1849, to George and Eliza J. (Pierce) Boyd, likewise natives of Kentucky. Her paternal ancestors were mostly Irish, while her maternal ancestors were of English origin. Her maternal grandfather, John Pierce, was a gallant soldier in the War of 1812. When Mrs. Major was about a year old her parents came to Woodford County, and became pioneers of Olio Township, her father, entering a tract of wild land from the Government in that place. His had but little means, and he and his wife and family had to undergo many of the hardships and privations incidental to pioneer life at that early day, but by the aid of his faithful wife, he conquered every obstacle, and now has a good farm, and a comfortable home wherein he and his companion can spend their declining years in peace. They are exemplary members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Boyd was well acquainted with its illustrious founder, the noted divine, Alexander Campbell. Six of their nine children are living: Joshua, in Buffalo County, Neb.; John M., in Panola Township; Sarah V., the wife of J. K. Hedges in Buffalo County, Neb., Susie, in this county; Leta B., the wife of C. S. Miller, in Panola Township; Lucy A., the wife of our subject. The names of those dead are Alice, Maria B., and Peter. The parents now reside near Eureka, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Major have two children, Eva and Chasteen.

Our subject is a man of principle and sterling habits, and his fellow-citizens find in him a good neighbor and a stanch friend, who never hesitates to grant a favor or to oblige another if it is in his power. He and his wife are agreeable, social people, and their hospitality is too well known to need further mention. They are active in religious work, being zealous members of the Christian Church, and in their every-day life they carry out its teachings. In politics, Mr. Major is a strong Republican, supporting his party by voice and vote whenever occasion offers.

ADAM STEPHENS, a prominent citizen of Montgomery Township, resides on a good farm of 300 acres on section 14. He is one of the most estimable men of the township, and not only a prosperous farmer but a popular man and good neighbor, who enjoys the respect and confidence of the community, and has served his township as Supervisor, in which position he gave excellent satisfaction. Adam Stephens is a native of this township, having been



RESIDENCE OF ADAM STEPHENS, SEC. 14. MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF RICHARD SPIRES, SEC. 24. MINONK TOWNSHIP.

born on his father's farm on section 13, in the year 1839, on the 25th day of November. His father, Lewis Stephens, a native of Highland County, Ohio, was born in 1808 on the 28th of October, being the son of a Virginia farmer, who was of German ancestry but of Virginia parentage. Lewis was reared and educated in Highland County, to which place his parents had come a number of years before from their native State of Virginia. The parents purchased land on their arrival in Highland County, cleared it of the original forest, erected good buildings and made a comfortable home on which they resided until death. The neighborhood in which they located was composed almost exclusively of Quakers, who spoke nothing but English, so that the Stephens were obliged to learn to speak the English language, and not having practice enough to keep up their German, almost forgot that tongue, and the children grew up in comparative ignorance of it.

In 1833 Lewis Stephens came to Illinois as a young man, and resided some eighteen months on the Kickapoo River, thence removed to Montgomery Township, this county, where he entered forty acres of land on section 13. The land cost $1.25 per acre, and to make payments he was obliged to go to Springfield with the money. He improved this land, making it his home, and it became the place of his death. Before his earthly career was closed, Aug. 13, 1872, he had accumulated an estate consisting of about 400 acres of land, the most of which was well cultivated and otherwise improved. All of this land was secured by purchase or entry from the Government, and about 300 acres is yet remaining in the hands of his children, most of it, however, belonging to our subject.

Lewis Stephens was married to Miss Melinda Houghman, a native of Highland County, Ohio, were she was born April 8, 1808. Accompanying her husband she came to this county, and after a life of usefulness fell asleep in 1853 on the 15th of October. Mrs. Stephens and her parents, in company with Mr. Stephens' parents, had emigrated from Highland County, Ohio, in 1833. Their journey was accomplished by means of wagons drawn by oxen and horse teams; there being no taverns, they brought their cooking utensils with them and camped at night by the road side. On reaching Illinois they settled on the Kickapoo River, and the next winter came to Montgomery Township.

After marriage Lewis began life for himself as a farmer, in which occupation he was very successful. In politics he was a sound Jackson Democrat all his life long. He was the father of eight children, of whom five are living.

Our subject was reared and educated in the schools of Montgomery Township. He was diligent in his studies and secured a fair education, but also paid attention to practical subjects, and by the time he was of legal age was well fitted to cope with the world, which he proceeded to do at once. Securing a farm, he began operating it in this township, and shortly afterward married his first wife, Miss Martha Daniel, the ceremony taking place at Metamora, Ill. Mrs. Stephens was born in Funk's Grove, McLain County, in 1845. She was a mere child when her parents came to Woodford County, and here she grew to womanhood, receiving her education in the common schools of the township. She was a dutiful, affectionate daughter, and made a noble wife and mother, but to her husband's grief she departed this life at her home in this township Sept. 11, 1866, at the age of twenty-one years. She was the mother of one child, Martha E., who died when less than one year old. Mr. Stephens was again married to a lady of this township, named Miss Helen Beck, a native of Spring Bay, this county, where she was born Feb. 1, 1841, being a daughter of Peter and Catherine (Gingery) Beck, who were natives of Germany. They came to the United States in their youth, locating in Pennsylvania, where they were married when full grown, and a few months later removed to the West, locating at first near Spring Bay, this county, but afterward removing to Montgomery Township, in which place Mr. Beck died Sept. 19, 1851, at the age of fifty-one years. Mrs. Beck is yet in the land of the living, and makes her home with her younger son, Christian Beck, in McLean County. She is now eighty years old, but although well stricken in years, and her head grown white with the frosts of winter, she

yet retains considerable vigor, and has a good recollection of numerous incidents occurring in her early days. She is an earnest and devoted member of the Mennonite Brotherhood, in which faith Mr. Beck died.

Mrs. Stephens was reared in her parents' home, and received a good common-school education and an excellent domestic training. She is the mother of three children: William A., born March 24, 1872; Lewis D., Dec. 4, 1873; and Charles A., Sept. 4, 1875. The children are all bright, intelligent, affectionate, and industrious, and are yet at home. Mr. Stephens has been Supervisor of the township for a period covering about eleven years. He has also served in the capacity of Assessor, and is a stanch Democrat in politics, and takes considerable interest in the management of political affairs.

A lithographic view of Mr. Stephens' residence appears elsewhere in this volume.

JOSEPH STEIDER. Though not among the earliest settlers of Woodford County, this gentleman may be accounted one of its pioneers, as since his advent here many years ago, when a mere boy, he has worked energeticafly to aid in the development of the vast agricultural resources of this rich farming region, and he is now classed among the most practical of the substantial farmers of Metamora Township, where he possesses as good a farm as is to be found in the country round about.

Our subject is a native of France, born at Dearne, Capelle canton, and arrondissement of Sorbourne, Department of Muerthes, Sept. 1, 1835. His father was a native of the same place, and was there reared and married, Catharine Miller becoming his wife. In his youth he served an apprenticeship to learn the trade of a shoemaker, and followed that calling in his native France till 1848. In that year he resolved to try life in the United States of America, and accordingly, in the month of September, he set sail from Havre with his wife and four children, and forty-eight days later landed in New Orleans. He and his family spent a month there, and then they proceeded up the river to St. Louis, where the husband and father was taken sick, and a week later he died, while yet in life's prime, being only forty-two years old. His unfortunate wife and children were thus left without his protection, in a strange country and with but limited means. They remained in St. Louis two months, and then came on to Woodford County, and the mother rented a house two miles west of Metamora, for a home for herself and children. When her eldest daughter married she went to live with her, and resided with her children after that till her death, in 1885, at the venerable age of eighty-two years. She was the mother of four children: Barbara married Joseph Bachman, and lives in Metamora Township; John lives in Seward County, Neb.; Peter lives in Metamora Township; Joseph is the subject of this biographical review.

The early years of his life were passed amid the pleasant scenes of his birthplace in sunny France, and he was the recipient of a very good education, as he attended school regularly till his parents emigrated to the United States. At that time he was a bright, active lad of fourteen years, with eyes and ears open to all the strange sights and sounds in this, to him, strange country. He still remembers the vivid impression that the wild, scarcely cultivated, sparsely inhabited prairies made upon him when he first set foot in Woodford County, where the deer and other game were then roaming at will. He commenced life here by working by the month, receiving $8 for that length of time as compensation for his services. He was prudent and thrifty, and with wise economy saved his earnings, so that three years later he was enabled to go to farming on his own account, renting land for that purpose the ensuing four years. In the meantime he and his brother bought land in partnership in their mother's name, and building a frame house to live in, commenced to improve their realty. There was then no railway here, and Peoria and Spring Bay were the nearest markets for some years. The brothers were quite prosperous in their undertakings, and made money, with which they

bought more land, the deeds being in the mother's name till her death. The land was then divided, and our subject now owns the original eighty acres that he and his brothers purchased, and 140 acres besides. He has his farm under excellent cultivation, has it provided with suitable frame buildings, and everything about the place is in good order.

Mr. Steider was married in 1866 to Miss Ann Stauffer, a native of the province of Alsace, Germany. She was in every sense a true and devoted wife, making her home comfortable and attractive to her family, and her death, May 23, 1880, was a sad blow to her beloved ones. Of her happy wedded life three children were born: Ama, Louisa A. and David W. Ama is the wife of David Wagner, of Roanoke Township. The other two are at home with their father.

Mr. Steider is a whole-souled, warm-hearted man, kind, genial and charitable in his intercourse with others, and a true friend to all who need a helping hand. He possesses a fair share of energy, acumen and thrift, and a knack of working to the best advantage, and these with other attributes have contributed to his success in life, as he is entirely a self-made man, having had no adventitious aids of birth or fortune, but what he is and what he has, he owes to his own exertions. His character is appreciated by his neighbors, who hold him in high respect and esteem. He and his family are devoted members of the Omish Church. Politically he is a Republican as regards national affairs, but in local matters he votes for the man and not for the party.

FRANK H. GOODRICH, of the firm of C. W. Goodrich & Son, of Minonk, is prominent in the public life of this city, and occupies an important place in the financial and social circles of Woodford County. He is a native of New York, born in the town of Westmoreland, Oneida County, Dec. 30, 1849, to Caleb W. and Nancy E. (Pratt) Goodrich. A sketch of his parents appears on another page of this volume. He accompanied them to Illinois in 1855, when a boy of five or six years, and Minonk has ever since been his home. He received a substantial education in the city schools, and early entered upon his career as a business man, becoming a partner of Samuel Wylie in 1873, and conducting the grain business with him the ensuing three years. After that he carried on the business alone one year, and subsequently he went to Peoria, where he had charge of the circulation of the *Daily Journal* for about two months. In 1878 he joined with his father in the lumber business, and though his father has recently died, our subject still manages the business, under the firm name of C. W. Goodrich & Son. He has proved himself an able and trustworthy financier, and is conducting an extensive business with marked success.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary Dacey, daughter of John and Margaret (McGowan) Dacey, was solemnized Dec. 24, 1878, and has been productive of much happiness to both. Mrs. Goodrich was born in Au Sable Forks, Essex Co., N. Y., Jan. 28, 1854. She is a lady of rare culture and refinement, and received a superior education at the Albany, N. Y., Normal School, of which she is a graduate. She came to Illinois in 1875, and secured a position as teacher in the Minonk city schools, with which she is still connected, having charge of the grammar department, and under her efficient management the standard of education has been raised in this city. To her and her husband have been born two children, Mary Louise and Raymond C. Their daughter weighed but one pound and five ounces at birth.

In our subject Minonk finds one of its most liberal and progressive citizens, who identifies himself with its highest interests. His financial talent and executive ability are of a high order, and his genial social qualities make him popular with all. His wife shares this regard with him, and they are prominent in the best society of the city. Mr. Goodrich is connected with the civic government of Minonk, as City Clerk, of which office he has been an incumbent for six years. He is a gentleman of cultured mind, and has a natural taste for music, which has been cultivated. He is leader of the Minonk Band, which, under his careful training, has become one of the finest in this part of the

State. In politics he is independent, and the demands of his public and private business are such that he gives them no further attention than to vote on election days.

WILLIAM L. BEAL, is another of the enterprising and energetic farmers of Minonk Township. His farm is located on section 3, his residence in this township dating back to 1859. He is a native of Richland County, Ohio, where he was born May 26, 1837, to John Beal and wife. The father of our subject left Germany, his native land, when a child six years old, coming across the vast deep in care of his parents to the United States. But little is known of his early years, his record having been written on perishable materials, but it is certain that he was married in the State of Ohio, to a lady who was a native of Pennsylvania. The issue of this marriage was three children: William L., Margaret, wife of Henry Baker, now residing in Powesheik County, Iowa. The youngest child, Frank died in 1887.

William L. Beal was a boy five years of age when he lost his mother, whose untimely death not only deprived him of her loving care, but entailed upon him great hardships, for his father being unable to properly care for him, he was bound out to a man named Jacob Spawn. His sister was also sent to the same family and their abode thereafter was on a farm, where they were not treated very kindly but were obliged to work early and late, in hot or cold, receiving only the barest necessaries of life and getting very little chance to obtain an education, having to be so constantly employed in other matters. At the age of eighteen, William left his guardian and entered the employ of a farmer in Knox County, Ohio, receiving $13 per month, which was then an exceptionally high salary. In 1859 he turned his face westward locating in Dickenson County, Kan., where he purchased land. He remained there only one year, leaving in 1860 on account of the Indians, who were committing great depredations, and the border ruffians who prosecuted him so cruelly that he was obliged to leave the State. Retracing his steps eastward as far as Illinois, he settled in Mason County, for a period, securing employment on a farm.

In September, 1861, Mr. Beal enlisted in Company B, 47th Illinois Infantry and served three years, and was mustered out with the rank of Corporal. His promotion was entirely merited by gallant and faithful performance of duty on the field of battle. His regiment was in active service at new Madrid, Island No. 10, Farmington, Miss., Corinth, May 29, 1862; Iuka, Miss., Corinth, Oct., 3, and 4, 1862; Jackson, Miss., Mechaniesburg, assault on Vicksburg, siege of Vicksburg, Ft. De Russy, La., Henderson Hill, Pleasant Hill, Centerville, Morris Plantation, Tupelo, Miss., and Abbysville. Although actively engaged in every battle or skirmish in which his company participated, he was never wounded or taken prisoner, making an unusual record in that respect, but one for which he feels very thankful.

At the close of the war Mr. Beal came to this county and secured employment at farm work, remaining there three years. In 1867 Mr. Beal and the lady of his choice, Miss Melora Richards, were united in marriage at the bride's home in Woodford County. She is the daughter of Thomas Richards, a prominent farmer of this county. The young couple erected a modest home on a quarter section of land belonging to Mr. Richards, and Mr. Beal immediately set to work turning up the sod on his prairie home, sowing seed and gathering in his crops, building fences, planting shade and fruit trees, erecting buildings to shelter his stock, and otherwise improving and cultivating the land until at present it yields him a good income. As a reward for the industry and economy displayed by Mr. and Mrs. Beal, Mr. Richards gave a deed of the entire 160 acres to his daughter, Mrs. Beal.

Mr. and Mrs. Beal are the parents of four children, namely: William, deceased, Etta, Frank and Gertie. Mr. Beal is a stalwart Republican, adhering to the principles of that party with unswerving fidelity. Mrs. Beal is a devoted wife and mother, a good friend to those in need of her kind offices, a

considerate and obliging neighbor, and with her husband enjoys a large circle of warm friends and acquaintances. In her church relations she is equally happy, being an active member of the Presbyterian Church.

JO MAJOR. The Major homestead is recognized as one of the best in Olio Township, and its proprietor is universally popular among all classes of people. Genial, hospitable, kindhearted and enterprising, he has not only accumulated a comfortable property for himself, but has been a useful man in his community, strengthening its best elements and giving his support to its most worthy enterprises. He may be usually found at his fine farm of 450 acres on section 18, where he has effected modern improvements and perpetuated a homestead desirable in every respect.

Mr. Major is the offspring of an excellent old Kentucky family and the son of Ben. and Lucy (Davenport) Major, who were natives of the Blue Grass State and emigrated to this county as early as 1834, establishing themselves among the pioneer settlers of Olio Township, and on the place now owned and occupied by their son, our subject. Here they spent the remainder of their lives. The father was called suddenly away by cholera on the 29th of May, 1852, at the age of fifty-six years. The mother survived her husband for a period of twenty years, her death taking place Jan. 16, 1876, in the seventy-third year of her age.

To the parents of our subject there was born a family of nine children, of whom he was the seventh. Ben. Major was a man of much force of character and became prominent in his community, upon which he exercised an excellent moral influence. Especially was he in favor of education, and was instrumental in the founding of Eureka College and officiated as President of the Board of Trustees for a long period. He also assisted in the organization of the Christian Church. In Kentucky he had in early life been a slave holder, but as years passed on and he began to realize the injustice of the peculiar institution, he liberated his colored people, sent them to Liberia at his own expense and supported them for several years.

The subject of this sketch was born in this county at the homestead where he now lives, Nov. 22, 1834, and received his early education in the district school. This education was not as thorough as he would have liked, but on account of his father's death he was obliged to assist his mother at the homestead, as he was the only son at home. He, however, has improved his leisure time with good books and the current periodicals and like his honest father, has been interested in the success of Eureka College, in which he also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees. His life occupation has been that of a farmer and his chief thought the acquisition of a pleasant and desirable home, and a competence for his declining years, which ambition it would seem, he has most thoroughly realized.

Mr. Major brought a bride to the old roof tree in the spring of 1861, having been married Feb. 12 of that year to Miss Mary S. Jones. This lady is a native of England and came to America when about ten years old. She has been the mother of seven children, the eldest of whom, a son, John, died at the age of nine months. Cora has charge of the art department of Eureka College; Lucy teaches the district school; Jo Jr., William, and Roy, are at home with their parents; Roger, a promising boy, died when five years old. The father, mother and daughters, are members of the Christian Church.

While unambitious of office, Mr. Major takes a warm interest in political affairs and keeps himself well posted upon the march of events. He has represented Olio Township several terms in the County Board of Supervisors, but aside from this has carefully avoided the responsibilities of office. During the late Civil War, he entered the ranks of the Union army as a member of Company A., 86th Illinois Infantry, and participated in the battles of Perryville, Nashville, Stone River, Chickamauga and Lookout Mountain. He endured all the hardships and privations of life in the army and after rendering a faithful service of about three years,

was mustered out at Washington and received his honorable discharge as captain; as soon as possible thereafter he returned home and has since given his time and attention to his farming interests. He remembers many of the incidents of pioneer life in this county during which time he assisted his father in the development of the homestead, and since reaching manhood has contributed his full quota to the enterprises which have established the reputation of Woodford County, as that of one of the best sections of the State.

PAUL KOEHLER. Thirty-seven years ago a family crossed the ocean from Germany to the United States, where they sought a home and a fortune. Among them was a little boy, over whose head scarcely four summers had passed. That boy, now a man in the prime of life, is an honored resident of Woodford County. He was born in the Fatherland, in the town of Bavaria, on the 30th day of June, 1848. He is the son of Peter and Clara Koehler.

Peter Koehler was a farmer in his native land, but in 1852 took his wife and their five children to a new home across the seas. The first winter after their arrival they passed in Peoria, then settled on a farm near Lacon, renting the land until 1858, when he purchased the 120 acres of land which is now occupied by the subject of this notice. In his old home he had accumulated but little money, but after coming to America his constant and unremitting industry brought its own reward, and he became the owner of 200 acres of land, all of which was improved. He died at the age of seventy-one years in 1872. Mrs. Koehler died in 1885 having reached her seventy-third year.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Koehler had a family of six children, five of whom lived to maturity, namely: Jacob, Christian; George, who died in infancy; Peter, Mary and Paul. The three first mentioned, met with a sad death. When they were accompanying their parents to the new home in Woodford County, they were drowned while crossing Crow Creek, the waters of which had risen until the creek was dangerous.

Our subject was a small lad when his parents settled in Woodford County, and remained under the parental roof until the parents had both passed from earth. His wife was Miss Barbara Sheeler, a daughter of Peter Sheeler, to whom he was married in 1871. She lived only a short time, her death occurring in 1874, leaving two children, Peter and Jacob.

Mr. Koehler was again married April 22, 1875, his wife being Miss Elizabeth Bolander, a lady of German birth and parentage. She was the only one of her family who crossed the Atlantic to make her home in the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Koehler are the parents of three children, Mary Ann, Clara and Barbara.

The political views of Mr. Koehler are coincident with those of the Republican party, while religiously he and his family are members of the Lutheran Church. He has served as Township Collector two terms, to the entire satisfaction of the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Koehler have a pleasant and happy home with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of this life. He owns 200 acres of land, well improved and in good condition. The addition of such a family as this to any town or city is of considerable importance, as they are law-abiding, refined people, whose society is a pleasure to all who come into contact with them.

ALFRED CROSBY BELL comes of sterling pioneer stock. He is one of the noble veterans of the late war, willingly sacrificing the opening years of a promising, vigorous manhood, for the good of his country, laying aside his personal aims and ambitions to aid in fighting its battles, and to save untarnished the dear old Stars and Stripes. To these citizen-soldiers our country has become still further indebted, for when the terrible strife between the North and South was at last brought to a close, they quietly

laid down their arms and took up the implements of peace, which they have since wielded just as effectively, and have greatly aided the progress of the country, and made the United States the most prosperous, powerful and peaceful nation on the face of the earth. Our subject is intelligently and profitably carrying on farming in Linn Township, and is the owner of one of its best managed and most productive farms.

He is a native of Indiana, his birth taking place in Albany, Aug. 7, 1841. His father, John E. Bell, was born in Kentucky, a son of Maj. Bell, whose parents were among the early pioneers of that State. The latter was a farmer, and in turn became, like his parents before him, a pioneer, removing to the primeval forests of Indiana. He was a citizen of that State during the Black Hawk War, was a member of the State militia, and served in the war mentioned as major of his regiment. The last years of his life were passed in New Albany.

The father of our subject was a young man when his parents removed to Indiana, and he established himself in the mercantile business. In 1846 he settled his affairs in Indiana, gathered his means together, and emigrated across the border into Illinois with a team, and coming northward located on Crow Creek, in Marshall County. He found this part of the country very thinly inhabited. At Bloomington, where he and his family spent one night there was a small collection of about half a dozen dwellings, and there were but two houses en route to his destination on Crow Creek, a distance of many miles. He bought a tract of wild land, part prairie and part timber, in Belle Plain Township, of which he thus became an early settler. We may remark in this connection that the Hon. Fleming Bell, his brother, was one of the original settlers of that township, and it was named in honor of the Bell family. The father of our subject built a log house in the timber near the Sycamore Ford, which became the abode of his family. At that time there were no railways in Illinois, and he and many of his neighbors drew wheat and grain to Chicago. He improved a part of the land, built up a comfortable home, and was doing well financially when death closed his earthly career in 1859. On his mother's side our subject is derived from fine New England ancestry. Her maiden name was Charlotte Elizabeth Crosby, and Milford, N. H., was her native place. Her father, Josiah Crosby, was born in New England, and is supposed to have spent his entire life there. The mother of our subject was a woman of superior mind. She was reared and educated in the town of her nativity, and when a young lady went to Indiana, and was successfully engaged in teaching there till her marriage. Her last years were passed quietly on the home farm in Marshall County, her death occurring in 1857. Three children were born to her and her worthy husband: John R., who lives near Wichita, Kan.; Elizabeth, who married James Planger, now deceased.

Alfred Bell, of this biography, was the oldest son. He gleaned his education in a primitive, pioneer school-house, with slab benches, wooden pins serving as legs for the seats, furniture and school-house being of the rudest description, and that one building being the only institution of learning in the whole township. When the family moved to Belle Prairie, and for some years after, deer, wild turkeys and wolves were plenty and would approach quite closely to the lonely cabin occupied by the family. Our subject resided with his parents till he was sixteen years old and then at the time of his mother's death, he left home to work on a farm in the township. After the breaking out of the war, he watched its course with intense interest, and the year he attained his majority, he joined his comrades on Southern battlefields, enlisting in the month of September in Company H, 77th Illinois Infantry, and marching to the front, served faithfully, efficiently and patriotically till after the close of hostilities. He was with Gen. Banks on the Red River expedition, and took part in the important battles of that campaign, and was present at the engagements before the Spanish Fort, and Forts Blakely and Morgan, and his regiment was one of the first to occupy the works around Mobile. In July, 1865, having won an honorable military record, he was discharged with his regiment at Springfield.

After his retirement from the army our subject visited his friends a few weeks, but his active temperament could not long brook idleness, and he

sought some way of employing his time profitably. He soon invested in a team and a corn sheller, and also purchased an interest in a ditching machine, and was engaged in operating them for a year. After that he rented a farm in Marshall County, which he carried on five years. During that period he bought the land comprising his present farm in Linn Township. There was but a small part of it under cultivation, but he now has the entire tract improved, and has erected a neat set of buildings, and has all the appurtenances of a model farm.

Mr. Bell and Miss Ellen J. McCune were united in marriage in 1867, and the following children have blessed their wedded life—Emma J., Ida M., Cora J., Charlotte E., William and Frank. John, a twin brother of Charlotte died when he was one year old. Mrs. Bell was born in Butler County, Ohio, a daughter of Hugh and Ellen J. McCune.

Linn Township, has no more worthy or highly respected people within her borders than our subject and his wife, and they occupy a warm place in the hearts of their neighbors, to whom they have endeared themselves by their genuine kindness and helpfulness. They belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in them their pastor and fellow-members find zealous co-workers who desire the highest good of the community. Mr. Bell is a true Republican, and takes an intelligent interest in politics.

CHRISTIAN HAASE, President of the Village Board, and the leading merchant of Washburn, is a fine representative of the energetic and wide-awake business men of this part of Woodford County, who are in every way possible advancing its interests. He has been identified with the administration of the public affairs of the place for a long time, as its most prominent civic official.

He is of foreign birth and extraction, born across the waters in the Rhine province, Germany, Dec, 8, 1848. His father, C. Haase, was born and reared in the same province. In early life he learned the trade of a stone mason, but after marriage he followed farming. He continued to reside in the Fatherland till 1867, when he emigrated with his family to America. He came to Illinois, and locating in Washburn, carried on the trade of a mason quite profitably several years, but is now living retired. The maiden name of his wife was Henrietta Junker, and she is also a native of the Rhine province. She is still living, and with her husband is spending her declining years pleasantly in a home surrounded by all the comforts of life.

The subject of this biographical review is the only child. He received a liberal education in his native land, attending school till he was sixteen. He came to America with his parents in 1867, and began life here as clerk in the general store of Roberts, Patrick & Co. Washburn was but a small village at that time, containing but a few families, and this was the only store of the kind in the place. He continued as clerk till 1878, and then purchased an interest in the concern of Mr. Roberts, and the firm became Patrick & Haase, and was conducted under that name till Mr. Patrick's death, which occurred in December, 1886, since which time he has conducted the business alone. In 1887 he was burned out, and the same year he erected a frame building on the same spot, and in 1888 he erected the building in which he is doing business at the present time. This is a handsome, commodious brick structure, twenty-four feet wide, eighty-five feet deep. Our subject carries a full and well-assorted stock of general merchandise, dry-goods, groceries, etc., and has one of the finest stores in the county. The career of our subject furnishes a fine example of what a self-made man may accomplish by thrift, industry and strict attention to business. He has risen from the humble position of clerk, to be one of the wealthiest and most substantial citizens of Washburn.

Mr. Haase was married in 1880 to Miss Mary Junker, who was born in Washburn of German parentage. They have one child named Carl.

The citizens of Washburn having long since recognized the fact that in the young man who was so successfully carrying on a flourishing business among them, were embodied those traits of

character that mark an astute, far-sighted, fair-minded, public-spirited citizen, and that the village would secure in him an able civic officer, elected him to a responsible place on the local Board of Government, and for a long time he was clerk of the board till his election to the still more responsible office of President of the Board. In that capacity he is doing all that he can to promote the the highest interests of the village, and no feasible scheme is advanced for its improvement that does not meet with his hearty approval and liberal support. He was appointed Postmaster of Washburn, and served with satisfaction to all concerned till the change of administration. As a politician he affiliates with the Democrats, and is one of the leading supporters of the party in this vicinity.

HENRY HALL, was, during the years of his boyhood and youth, a resident of England, which was the land of his birth. He was an employe in a large woolen factory, from the age of ten years until he had reached the twenty-sixth year of his life. This period, which most boys devote to the pleasures of the ball ground, the race, or the simple amusements of the home circle, or otherwise are consuming the time in study and preparation for years of future usefulness, was by him all occupied in working for the necessities of life—food, shelter and clothing. He was very successful in his labor, and had the confidence of his employers, but at the end of the sixteen years he had been in their factory, he found himself about as poor as when he entered. Wishing to lay up a little for the proverbial "rainy day" and knowing that it was an impossibility in England, he at last decided to seek a home in the United States. Hither the eyes of an entire world were then turned, as opening a field for the poor and destitute of all countries.

In the spring of 1850 Mr. Hall took passage at Liverpool in the vessel 'Great Western," and after an ocean voyage of thirty-two days, reached New York City, landing with hundreds of other emigrants at the famous city. In that motley throng he caught his first glimpses of life in America. Soon however, leaving the companions of his voyage, he started directly to Illinois, where he located at Peoria. In that young and growing city Mr. Hall was for a time engaged at various occupations, subsequently working as a farm laborer. He was enabled by strict economy to save enough to begin as a renter in Peoria County, and later bought a farm in the same county. In the spring of 1865 he changed his residence from Peoria County, to Panola Township, Woodford County, where he purchased eighty acres of good land on section 10. Of this forty acres had never been broken, nor even had a furrow turned in it, while the other half was only partially cultivated. Being a man of determination and will, Mr. Hall went to work immediately on his new homestead, and the result of his industry is noticeable in the fact that he is now the owner of 200 acres of fine land, ranking as among the best in the township. He has done a great deal of pioneer labor, but has now retired from active work on the farm, although he still oversees and manages the work. His present farm is located on section 15, and there he has a comfortable home, where he quietly enjoys the fruits of years of toil. He is also a stock-raiser, and has been very successful in raising fine breeds of stock on his farm.

Mr. Hall was married prior to coming to America, to Miss Ann Hartley, daughter of Robert and Ann Hartley, natives of England, where they spent their entire lives; they both being deceased. This lady did not accompany her husband to America, but six years later joined him in New York City, where he had gone to meet her and the daughter, Caroline, and they proceeded at once to the home that the husband had prepared for them in Peoria County, Ill. The daughter died in Peoria County, in 1858 and the wife died in Woodford County, Ill., in 1868.

Mr. Hall was married a second time in Peoria County, to Jane Healy, who afterward died, leaving no children. His third marriage was with Mary A. Chadwick, in 1883, by whom he had one child, now deceased. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, where he is highly respected. In political affiliations he is a Republican, with Pro-

hibition principles, believing in moderation in all things. Socially, he and his wife enjoy a large and extended acquaintance, and are numbered among the leading and influential residents of Panola Township.

Mr. Hall is now in the prime of his useful life, having been born in 1824, on the 11th of June. Lancashire was his native county, and there he lived during almost the entire time of his residence in England. His parents were named respectively Robert and Ellen Hall, people of good family and honored wherever known. They spent their entire lives in their native land, and there passed to their last rest.

Although having no aspirations for public life and the cares and responsibilities of office, Mr. Hall is greatly interested in the cause of education in America, and displayed his solicitude for the advancement of the common schools by serving with great zeal and enterprise on the Board of School Directors. Having himself been deprived of an education, save what he obtained at the night schools, he feels particularly anxious that the children of this day and age should be fitted in every possible way for their future life.

JOHN B. MURPHY, a retired farmer and a prominent and influential citizen of Secor, was born in Loudoun County, Va., on the 4th day of September, 1804, and is a son of Philip T. Murphy. The family is of Irish descent, and was founded in America by the grandparents of our subject, who left the Emerald Isle, and became residents of Virginia, locating near Richmond, where the remainder of their lives was passed.

Philip T. Murphy, father of our subject, was born in the Old Dominion, and in Loudoun County was reared and married, the lady of his choice being Miss Nancy Richardson, a native of England, who had crossed the Atlantic to America with her parents in childhood. After marriage the young couple began their domestic life in Loudoun County, where the husband followed the occupation of farming. His beloved wife was called to her final rest while there residing, dying of palsy at the age of sixty-four years. Mr. Murphy afterwards became a resident of Ohio, and died in Muskingum County, at the home of his son John B., at the age of seventy-eight years. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and were consistent Christian people, who died respected by all who knew them.

Our subject is one of a family of five children, two sons and three daughters, and passed his early life in his native county. He afterwards became a resident of Ohio, settling in Muskingum County with his father, where he remained for some years. At length leaving the Buckeye State, he became a resident of Illinois, and in Tazewell County, in 1837, was united in marriage with Sidney A. Hereford, who was born in Culpeper County, Va., Feb. 23, 1821. Her parents were Ammond and Amelia N. (Powell) Hereford, both of whom were also natives of Virginia, and of English parentage. By occupation Mr. Hereford was a farmer, and followed that business during the greater part of his life. He died at his home in Culpeper County, at the early age of thirty-four years, after which his wife came with her family to Illinois, settling in Tazewell County, where she passed away some years later, at the age of sixty-five years. She was a member of the Methodist Church, and herself and husband were highly respected people.

Mrs. Murphy was but five years old at the death of her father. In 1836 she came with the family to Illinois, remaining with her mother until her marriage. The bridal tour of the young couple consisted of a trip to Muskingum County, Ohio, where they began their domestic life and made their home until 1865, when they again came to Illinois, locating in Greene Township, Woodford County. Purchasing land, Mr. Murphy at once turned his attention to the development of a farm, continuing the work of cultivation and improvement until his retirement from active life. By years of industry and perseverance he had accumulated a competency, which would enable him to pass his declining years in rest from all labor, and

in 1882 he left the farm which he had so long made his home, and removed to Secor. However, he still owns 160 acres of valuable land in Greene Township.

Of the ten children born to Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, seven are yet living: Josiah A., who married Fannie Revanaugh, and is now engaged in farming in Taylor County, Iowa; Philip T., who wedded Mary Hereford, and resides on his farm near Piper City, Ill.; William T., who makes his home in Peoria, Ill.; Daniel, a leading merchant of Muskingum County, Ohio, was joined in wedlock with Sarah M. Karnes; Eliza J. is the wife of S. Burkholder, a resident farmer of Palestine Township; Eva is at home, and Albert C., a grocery merchant of Lincoln, Neb., married Ida Miller. Sarah, Mary, and an infant daughter are deceased.

For a quarter of a century Mr. Murphy has made his home in this county, and has identified himself with its best interests. He has aided in its progress and development, its upbuilding and advancement, and well merits the high regard in which he is held. In politics he is a supporter of the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are now in their declining years, but their lives have been well spent, and they can look back over the past with no regrets. Their course has always been such as to win the confidence of those with whom they have come in contact, and they have gained many warm friends throughout the county.

WILLIAM L. ELLWOOD, Attorney-at-Law, Metamora, has won a reputation at the bar as a lawyer of ability, whose personal character is above reproach. His father, Isaac Ellwood, was a native of England, his parents also being of English birth and ancestry, his father being William Ellwood, a prominent farmer of Cumberland, and they passed their entire lives in their native land. The father of our subject having a natural taste for a military life, entered the British service when quite young, and became a member of the Queen's Life Guards, remaining in the army several years. He came to America before marriage and settled in the State of New York, engaged in farming at Skaneateles. He subsequently came from there to Illinois in 1852. He first established himself and family in Morgan County, but after living there two years came to Woodford County, and bought a farm in Metamora Township, and became actively identified with its agricultural interests. In 1856 he removed to Washington, Tazewell County, for the purpose of keeping a hotel. He managed it successfully a few years, and then going to Mackinaw, resumed farming. At the breaking out of the war he went to Springfield and offered his services as drill master, his experience in the English army amply qualifying him for that duty, and they were gladly accepted by the Illinois State Government, and he was employed to teach the raw recruits of the 11th Illinois Cavalry and other regiments, military tactics. He went south with the 11th Illinois Cavalry to which he was attached, and rendered valuable service in his capacity of drill-master. Although the duties of his position did not require it, for the sake of aiding the regiment he drilled, he exposed himself to the fire of the enemy at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, and had a horse killed under him. After that battle he enlisted as a soldier and was elected Captain of Company I, 11th Illinois Cavalry. He was detailed to do garrison duty at Corinth, Miss., and while there was stricken with a mortal illness, was granted a leave of absence, and eleven days after his return home died, and was buried in the cemetery at Mackinaw, in Tazewell County, Ill., and thus passed away from earth, as gallant a soldier as ever yielded up his life for the country of his adoption. The maiden name of his wife was Ann E. Hugill, and she was a daughter of Charles and Margaret (Roberts) Hugill, all natives of England. She departed this life in Metamora, Ill., Sept. 22, 1881.

There were three children born of the marriage of the parents of our subject, of whom two are living, his sister Margaret and himself, the former being the wife of J. M. Fort, of Minonk, of whom see sketch. The maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch were natives of England, and they came to America in 1833, and located in Can-

ada near Toronto, where they lived five years. They then came to the "States," and finally, in 1858, settled and spent the rest of their days in Metamora Township.

He of whom we write was born near Skaneateles, N. Y., March 6, 1851, and was but an infant when his parents brought him to this State, so that the most of his life has been passed here. He gained a solid foundation for a sound education in the public schools, and was afterwards a student at the Illinois Soldiers' College at Fulton. During his three years stay in that excellent institution of learning, he obtained good rank for scholarship, and was well fitted for any profession that he might decide to adopt. After leaving college he taught school in Cruger Township, eight and one-half months. In June, 1870, he commenced the study of law, for which he had a marked taste, under the instruction of S. M. Garrett of Metamora, then States Attorney for the 23d Judicial District. He read law assiduously, and applying for admission to the bar, was examined in open court before the full bench at Ottawa, in the September term, 1872, and was admitted after satisfactorily passing a rigid examination. He opened an office in Watseka, Iroquois Co., Ill., and practiced there six months. He then came to Metamora, where he formed a partnership with John Clark, under the firm name of Clark & Ellwood, they continuing together till April 30, 1877, when our subject practiced alone for a short time, and then formed a partnership with the well known S. S. Page, now Judge Page, of Peoria, continuing with him till March, 1882, or until a short time after the latter's removal to Peoria. Since that time Mr. Ellwood has been alone, and has established a lucrative practice by perfectly legitimate means.

Mr. Ellwood and Miss Mary E. Bullock, were united in marriage Dec. 26, 1875, and their happy wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, Edna M. and Beulah. Mrs. Ellwood is a native of New York State, her father being John J. Bullock, while the maiden name of her mother was Catherine Jones.

Mr. Ellwood's career at the bar has shown him to be possessed of a good knowledge of law, a true love for his profession, unflagging zeal in its prosecution, and of a high standard of professional honor. He is a Prohibitionist in politics, and a strong advocate of the temperance movement in both word and deed.

DAVID S. RICHARDS, Superintendent of the Chicago and Minonk Coal and Coke Company, is numbered among the most prominent, enterprising and capable business men of Woodford County, and Minonk has no resident more worthy of respect and esteem than he. He is a native of Wales, born Jan. 28, 1852. His parents, Shem and Elizabeth (Baker) Richards, also natives of Wales, emigrated to Canada in 1855, and, after living there ten years came to the United States, locating in Chicago, where Mr. Richards worked at his trade of carpentering until his death which occurred in August 1888, when he was sixty-nine years of age. Mrs. Richards is yet living and makes her home in Chicago. Of the children born to her and her husband four are living, namely: William E., a dry-goods merchant of Chicago; Elizabeth, wife of John R. Blake, resides near San Francisco, Cal.; C. Sarah is the wife of Thomas Beggs of Chicago.

The subject of this brief personal narrative was the fifth child born to his parents. He received the rudiments of his education in Canada, and soon after coming to Chicago, secured work in a printing office and was afterward employed for a while in an abstract office. Subsequently, our subject entered the office of Miner T. Ames, as errand boy, and so well performed the menial duties given him that he was from time to time promoted to positions of greater responsibility. In every place he was put, Mr. Richards proved faithful and trustworthy, and on Jan. 5, 1872, Mr. Ames sent him to the office of the coal mines in Minonk, of which he was president. Samuel Work, was at that time Superintendent of the mines, and our subject was in the office with him and his successor a few months when, shortly after attaining his majority, he was given full charge of the mines, his employers fully

reeognizing his keen business ability, shrewd judgment, and exeellent tact. The company employs over 200 men in the mines, which are 554 feet deep, and also several men above ground, beside those who are engaged in the manufacture of tile. Mr. Richards also has eharge of the latter business as well as of the store of the eompany, which is the largest in Minonk.

In 1876 Mr. Riehards was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ellen Shepherd. She was born near Lacon, being a daughter of John P. Shepherd, a farmer of Marshall County. Their union has been blessed by the birth of three ehildren, Rena Belle, Miner T. and Franees Gertrude.

Our subjeet and his estimable wife during their residenee in Minonk, have won the regard and eonfidenee of all with whom they have come in contact, and their geniality and hospitality render them very popular throughout their community. In all social, moral and literary affairs they take a deep interest, and Mr. Riehards is serving as a member of the Board of Edueation. In politics our subjeet, though deelining to take an active part, supports the Democratic party.

HON. JAMES DWIGHT WEBBER, a prominent eitizen of Woodford County, has been eonneeted with the highest interests of Minonk, for more than twenty years, was at one time one of its leading merchants, and has also paid some attention to agriculture, being the proprietor of a fine farm in this vieinity. But he is now living in retirement here in a pleasant, attractive home. It gives us pleasure to publish in this work a record of the life of this widely known and honored gentleman.

He is a native of New York, and eomes of a sterling ancestry. He was born in Greene County, that State, April 19, 1826, to Henry and Louisa (Pitts) Webber, also natives of that county. His great-grandfather was a native of Holland, who left his native land and came to Ameriea, aecompanied by a brother some time during the last century. After landing in this country he and his brother became separated, and they never met again. John Webber, grandfather of James, our subject, was born in the primeval forests of Greene County, as one of the early pioneers of that county, and earried on his occupation of farming there many years. He erected a log eabin, and cleared and improved a good farm, and there he and his good wife made their home respected and regarded with feelings of affeetion by their fellow-pioneers, till death ealled them hence, he dying at the age of eighty-four, and she at the age of ninety-three. Her maiden name was Mitchell, and she was a native of Massaehusetts. She and her husband reared a family of eight ehildren: David, Henry, John N., Robert, William, Betsy, Sally and Christian. All engaged in agricultural pursuits exeept Robert who became a physieian.

Henry, the father of our subject, was a farmer, and in his early life operated a fulling mill in his native county. He did gallant serviee in the War of 1812, and was promoted to the rank of sergeant. He married in Greene County, and there he and his wife spent their wedded life, he dying at the age of sixty-four years, killed by a falling tree, and she passed away at the age of fifty-six. He was a sueeessful farmer financially and aeeumulated mueh valuable property, and in his death the interests of his eommunity received a severe blow. He was an aetive and eonsistent member of the Methodist Episeopal Chureh, and none of his fellow-members were before him in his good works. Of his peaceful and happy wedded life the following children were born, all of whom attained their majority, as follows: James Dwight; Levi P., a farmer in Rutland, Ill.; Ann C., wife of R. L. Hamilton, of Minonk; John H., an extensive farmer near Wenona, Ill.; Ellen, wife of E. J. Nichols, of Kingston, N. Y.; Charles E., living in Minonk; Cynthella, who was twice married, her first husband being George Hill, and her second M. Lament. She died in Kingston, N. Y., hers being the first death in the family; Harriet E., the wife of Edward Andrews, of Kingston, N. Y.; Sarah C., the wife of Charles V. Dubois, of Kingston, N. Y.

James D. Webber of this biography was bred to the life of a farmer on the old homestead where he

was born. Being an apt and eager scholar, he gleaned a very good education in the public schools, and at one time utilized his learning by teaching very successfully three terms. He subsequently learned the trade of a wagon and carriage maker, which he pursued very profitably till 1865. He then sold out his business and disposed of his property with the view of taking up his abode in the West, wishing to try life on the broad, breezy, healthful prairies of Illinois, and in 1866 he settled in Minonk, and has since held an important place among its prominent citizens. At first he engaged in the hotel business, being the proprietor and manager of the Webber House, which still bears his name. In 1870 he sold his hotel building, and associated himself with E. Martin to engage in the hardware trade, under the name of Martin & Webber. In 1872 he sold his interest in the store, as he was at that time elected to the State Legislature. He served with distinction in that honorable body, and was a member of the Penitentiary Committee, and also of that on Banks and Banking. In 1873 he again gave his attention to the hardware business, entering into partnership with C. E. Webber and S. A. Miller, under the firm name of Webber Bros. & Miller, continuing thus till 1880, when our subject retired, although he subsequently carried on a furniture business some eighteen months. Besides other valuable property, he owns 160 acres of choice and well-improved land in Minonk Township.

To the good wife who has shared his fortunes, and to whom he owes much of his success in life, he was united in marriage in 1856, in Greene County, N. Y. Mrs. Webber is a native of that county. Her maiden name was Jemima Tryon, and she is a daughter of Peter D. and Mary Tryon, also natives of Greene County, the Tryons having been pioneers of that part of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Webber have had but one son, Henry T., born in 1857. He received a good practical business education, and after leaving school traveled two years for a furniture firm, and later was employed in the Chicago office of the Chicago & Minonk Coal and Coke Company. He was regarded as a very bright and promising young man, and his employers considered him one of their best clerks and most efficient salesmen. But his health failed, and he was obliged to give up business, and he traveled awhile in California, in the vain hope of recovery, but died of consumption in the month of September, 1888, leaving a wife and one child, Lottie, besides his parents and many warm friends, to mourn his untimely death. Though dying so young, he left an honorable record of a well-spent life, and we cannot believe that it has come to naught. It can truthfully be said of him in words that were said of another:

"His life is bright—bright without spot it was
And cannot cease to be. No ominous hour
Knocks at his door with tidings of mishap.
Far off is he, above desire and fear.
No more submitted to the chance and change
Of the unsteady planets. O, 'tis well
With him. But who knows what the coming hour,
Veiled in thick darkness, brings for us?"

Mr. Webber is a valued member of the Democratic party, and has held office with distinction, yet he does not care to mingle in public life, though his course as a legislator showed him to be possessed of good, statesman-like qualities, and was honorable to him and useful to the State. His reputation both in public and private life is blameless, and his unswerving rectitude of purpose and act is detected in his every word and deed. His amiable wife shares with him the high respect and consideration in which he is held. He is connected with the Masonic order, and is a Knight Templar.

JOSEPH HASTINGS MOORE. The record of this respected veteran, who is now approaching the seventy-sixth year of his age, is one of more than ordinary interest, filled in with the events of a long and useful life, one which it is hoped will be prolonged for many years to come. He is one of the pioneer settlers of this county, coming within its limits when it bore a wide contrast to its present condition, and he has been a resident of El Paso Township, since 1860. The year following he was elected a Justice of the

Peace, at the organization of the township, and has since filled the position, not continuously however. He took up his abode in the city of El Paso in 1864, and was its first Mayor under the new organization. He was the Postmaster from 1868 to 1880, a period of twelve years, and has been identified with its most important interests from the beginning.

The town of Boylston, Worcester Co., Mass., was the native place of our subject and the date of his birth Feb. 8, 1814. His parents were David and Dolly (Hastings) Moore. The Moore and Hastings families are of English descent, and David Moore, the father of our subject, removed with his family to Athens County, Ohio, in the year of 1817. There they reared their six sons and three daughters to maturity, but only three boys of the family are now living—the Hon. E. H. Moore of Athens, Ohio, older than our subject; Henry D., a resident of Peru, Miami Co., Ind., and our subject. Mr. Moore had only the advantages of a common-school education, mostly carried on in a log school house, and at an early age he was required to make himself useful on the new farm, clearing the land and cultivating the soil. The father being a carpenter and millwright was away from home the most of his time, working at his trade, and consequently the care of the farm and the raising of the children devolved mostly upon the mother. While in Massachusetts the parents were connected with the Congregational Church, but there being no society of this kind near their home after removing to Ohio, they united with the Presbyterian Church with which they were subsequently identified the remainder of their lives. David Moore departed this life in May, 1836 while in his prime. The mother survived her husband many years and until 1874, in which year her decease took place at the ripe old age of eighty-four years.

In Muskingum County, Ohio, Aug. 7, 1834, our subject was married to Miss Juliet Helm. In the following fall the young people removed with the wife's parents to Jefferson County, Ky., and during that winter they united with the Christian Church at Flat Rock. After coming to Illinois, they, in 1864, were instrumental in organizing the Christian Church at El Paso, and ever afterward took a lively interest in its prosperity. In connection with this Mr. Moore has held many offices of trust and responsibility and is now an Elder.

Mr. Moore and his family in 1836 removed from Kentucky, to Athens, Ohio, where Mr. Moore became prominent in local affairs and was elected to the office of Constable, and Township Treasurer, and in 1839 to the office of Sheriff of Athens County. He took an active part in the election of Gen. William H. Harrison in 1840, and although not possessing oratorical powers, did fully as efficient service at the public assemblies by looking after the band wagons and log cabins necessary to create enthusiasm over the candidate, assisted in raising liberty poles, and was efficient at the grand rallies generally. He served his first term of office as Sheriff acceptably and was re-elected in 1841.

In 1844 Mr. Moore decided upon a removal farther Westward and came to McLean County, this State. He settled on its western line where he purchased the last remnant of land from Mr. Redding, of the notorious Redding gang of Mosquito Grove, known then, as Rogues Harbor. The Reddings had left and joined the Mormons at Nauvoo, excepting the uncle in whose name the title to the land was, and the following year 1845 took part in the noted Davenport murder. In 1846 Mr Moore removed to what was then Concord, but is now Danvers, in McLean County, and the following year he was elected Justice of the Peace. In 1849 occurred the re-organization of the old county commissioners court, and the forming of a new court consisting of one Judge and two Associate County Justices of the Peace, at which time, November, 1849, Hon. John E. McClun was elected Judge and Silas Waters, Esq., of Leroy, and "Jay" H. Moore were elected Associates and held their offices four years; Mr. Moore, in 1856 was elected Sheriff of McLean County, which office he held two years.

Mr. Moore in 1857 took an active part in securing the location of the Normal University at Bloomington, which was only accomplished by securing an appropriation of $60,000 from the County Court, then consisting of A. J. Merriman, Judge, and Hiram Buck and Milton Smith, Associates, (both the latter now deceased,) out of the Swamp Land fund. In 1860 Mr. Moore moved on to a farm of 240 acres, two miles south of El Paso. In

1861, when the township of El Paso was organized he was elected Justice of the Peace which office he held until 1869. Then, having been appointed Postmaster at El Paso, he declined a re-election and held the latter office until 1880.

In 1881 Mr. Moore was elected Justice of the Peace which office he filled until 1889. He was then elected Police Justice for the city of El Paso, which office he now holds. While farming he met with several disasters, On the 13th of May, 1858, a hurricane struck his house and scattered it to the four winds, killing one man and crippling eight or nine other persons—men, women and children. He soon re-built and raised fifteen-cent corn and $2,50 pork until 1862. That year he was stricken down with rheumatism and was obliged to abandon active labor. He sold his farm in 1863 and removed to El Paso in the Spring of 1864. Aside from being troubled occasionally with rheumatism, he is quite hale and hearty not withstanding his age.

Mrs. Juliet (Helm) Moore, died at the family residence in El Paso, May 20, 1868 leaving a family of five children. Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth C., is the wife of Harry Sanders of Newark, Ohio. Josephine B., is the widow of Thomas D. Helm, of El Paso; Mary L., is the wife of J. Newton Henry of Clinton, Ill.; Henrietta M., Mrs. P. A. Simmons, lives at Medicine Lodge, Kan.; Charles Hastings, the only son, is a resident of Kansas City, Mo.

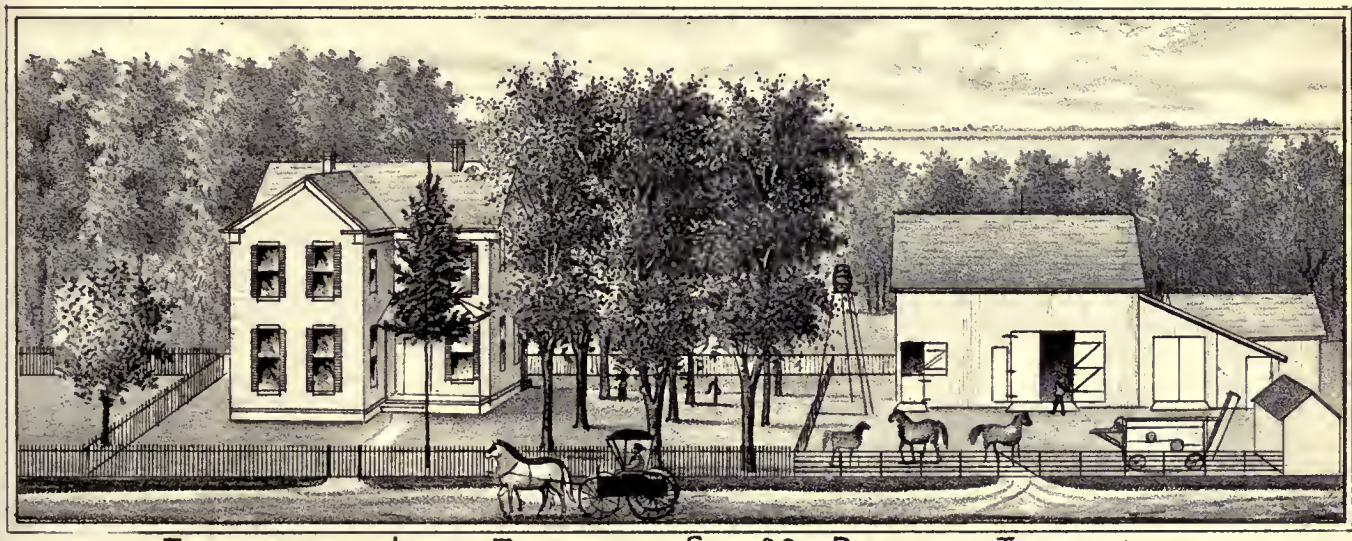
In December, 1869 Mr. Moore was married a second time to Mrs. Nancy (Baldridge) McClamroch, of Indianopolis, Ind. This lady was the widow of Thomas McClamroch, who died at Indianopolis, in the fall of 1859, leaving one son, Robert, who is now a capitalist and banker of Frankfort, Ind. The present wife of our subject has been a zealous member of the Christian Church since a young girl of fifteen years. In 1882 in company with his son, Charles, Mr. Moore went into the Indian Territory. where they engaged in the live stock business and spent the summer on a ranche in the Cherokee Strip, being a member of the Cherokee Strip Live Stock Association, which leased the Strip of the Cherokees for five years in consideration of $100,000 per annum, payable semi-annually. The ranche comprised a body of land seven miles square, and of his part Mr Moore retained possession until 1886. He then sold out and abandoned the live-stock business and in fact retired from active life, with the exception of officiating as Justice of the Peace.

Mrs. Nancy Moore was born and reared in Ohio, where she was first married and later removed with her husband to Indianopolis, Ind., where Mr. McClamroch died in the prime of life. Mr. Moore, politically, was in early life a member of the old Whig party but upon its abandonment, in 1856, identified himself with the newly-formed Republican party of whose principles he has been a hearty supporter. He has been the witness of changes and events, which could they presented in book form would make a most readable volume: In the development and growth of Woodford County, he has taken an active part and his name will be held in remembrance long after he has been gathered to his fathers.

MICHAEL C. WAGNER, the popular representative of Worth Township, on the County Board of Supervisors, is quite an extensive farmer and stock-raiser of this, his native county. He is the proprietor of 360 acres of land, 250 or more of which is tillage and pasture land, the remainder being in timber. He was born in Partridge Township, Dec. 20, 1849, the youngest son of Jacob and Mary S. (Stouder) Wagner. See sketch of Jacob Wagner for parental history.

Our subject was reared in his native township. He attended school but little in his youthful days, for his father being in limited circumstances, needed his assistance on the farm. He aided his father in clearing land and in tilling the soil until his marriage. He then rented the homestead two years, and after that rented other farms in the same township the ensuing seven years, and at the expiration of that time rented the farm that he now occupies. He was a great worker, and was very prosperous as a renter, and at the end of three

RESIDENCE OF SIMON SWAN, SEC. 5. CLAYTON TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JACOB BARINGER, SEC. 36. ROANOAKE TOWNSHIP.

FARM PROPERTY OF MRS. N. J. STUMBAUCH, SEC. 2. MONTGOMERY TP.

years he purchased the farm, and has resided on it ever since, actively engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

Mr. Wagner was joined in marriage to Miss Margaret Sharp, and she made him an excellent wife, being of material assistance in bringing about his present prosperous circumstances. Her father, George Sharp, was one of the earliest settlers of Tazewell County, and is still living on the land which he bought from the Government, and has reclaimed from the wilderness. Our subject and his wife are the parents of nine children, namely: Christian, Ella, Edward, Annie, Carrie, Charles, Arthur, Ida and Harrison, the latter named in honor of President Harrison. Mr. and Mrs. Wagner are active Christian people, and members respectively of the Methodist Episcopal and Lutheran churches. Politically, our subject affiliates with the Republican party, and the high estimation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is attested by the fact that he has been twice re-elected to the important office of Supervisor, in which position he is now serving his third term, in a township whose voters are, to a great extent, his political opponents.

DANIEL C. WAGNER is extensively and prosperously engaged as a farmer and stock-raiser on the old Sharp homestead in Worth Township, where his wife was born and bred. He is a native of Germany, born Nov. 12, 1841, to Jacob and Margaretta Wagner, pioneers of Woodford County, for whose personal history see sketch of Jacob Wagner.

Our subject was the seventh child born to his parents, and being a lad of six years when he crossed the ocean from his native land to this country, he has quite a distinct recollection of the voyage, and of the appearance of the country in his early years here, and of the pioneer life of the inhabitants. There being no railways here, the river towns were the markets. At the time of his marriage Mr. Wagner left the home of his parents and rented land, and busily engaged in farming it the following two years. At the expiration of that time he located on the farm where he now lives, which was the birthplace of his wife, and the homestead that her father had eliminated from the wild prairies and timber lands of Woodford County, in the very early years of its settlement. Our subject has managed it in the very best possible manner, so as to add to its value rather than to decrease it. Its broad fields yield him generous harvests in return for the careful cultivation that he gives to the soil. Its buildings are of a substantial order, and are well kept, and Mr. Wagner has the farm stocked with choice cattle of excellent grades, besides having fine horses and swine of good breeds.

Mr. Wagner was married, Jan. 5, 1866, to Miss Mary Sharp, and to them have come nine children, as follows: Mary, Alexander, Maggie, Sadie, Frank, Amanda, Albert, Lawrence and LeRoy. Aleck, the oldest son living, a bright and promising young man, has been blind since he was two years old. He has been a student at the Institution for the Blind at Jacksonville, in this State, and was graduated therefrom with honor in June, 1889.

Mrs. Wagner's father, John Sharp, was born in Maryland, Aug. 9, 1800. He went from there to Ohio, and thence to Illinois, in 1827, and became an early settler of this State. He was a miller by trade, and he and his brother built the first mill erected in that region. About 1833 he sold his interest in it, and came to Woodford County, as one of its early pioneers. He located in what is now Worth Township, and bought a tract of land bordering on Partridge Creek, now included in the homestead occupied by our subject. He improved it into one of the best farms in this locality, and made it his home till his death, May 11, 1875. The maiden name of his wife was Phebe Ayers, and she came to this State with her father, Francis Ayers, who was one of the very first settlers of Woodford County. She is still living on the old homestead, having attained the venerable age of eighty-four years. Under her eyes has passed the entire growth of the county, and it has been her pleasure to witness the construction of many fine farms from the wild prairies, and the springing up of flourish-

ing towns where wolves, panthers, deer, and other wild animals used to roam at will. Mrs. Wagner has spent her entire life on the old homestead, and in the home of her parents received the careful instruction that has made her a good housewife, and eminently capable of presiding over a home of her own.

Mr. Wagner is well worthy of the success that has come to him as a first-class agriculturist, as he thoroughly understands his work, and supervises its every detail himself, and employs none but the best methods and the most approved machinery.

CHRISTIAN SCHERTZ is well-dowered with firmness, independence, activity and enterprise, which characteristics render him an important member of the farming community of Woodford, his native county. He is the proprietor of one of the most desirable farms in Roanoke Township, and he is conducting his agricultural interests after the most approved methods so as to obtain the best results.

Our subject was born in Worth Township, Jan. 29, 1842. His father, David Schertz, was born in Alsace, France, (ceded to Prussia) and grew to man's estate in the country of his birth. He came to America, when a young man, in 1837, and coming to Woodford County, became an early settler of Worth Township. He was a single man at the time, but subsequently married, and on the tract of wooded land that he purchased he built a log house, and there he and his bride commenced life together, and in that humble abode their children were born. They probably had no stove and the good wife used to cook their savory meals before the fire in the open fire place. In the month of January, 1851, the husband and father was stricken by death. He left his family in limited circumstances, but the mother bravely kept her children together, working and toiling to support and rear them in the proper manner, till each became independent and married, and had homes of their own, and then she went to live with her daughter, Mrs. John Smith, in Metamora Township, and her life was brought to a close in January, 1885. Her maiden name was Catherine Bachmann, and she was a native of Alsace. Her father, Henry Bachmann, was a native of the same country, and there spent his entire life. The mother of our subject came to America with a sister and brother. There were six children born of her marriage, of whom five are living.

The subject of this sketch was nine years old when his father died, and the next two years he lived with a neighbor, and then returned to the old homestead, and being a manly, self-reliant little lad, was of great assistance to his mother in the management of the farm, and thus gained a thorough, practical knowledge of farming. He continued to live with his mother and other members of the family till 1866, when he married and established a home of his own. At first he rented a farm on section 18, Roanoke Township, but two years later he bought and located on his present farm. A small shanty was the only dwelling or house on the place, and 100 acres of the land broken, constituted the only improvements. Mr. Schertz has wrought a great change by persistent and downright hard labor, and now has the entire tract of 200 acres under admirable cultivation, and he has erected substantial frame buildings, and everything about the farm is in good order and shows the presence of a master's hand.

Mr. Schertz and Miss Magdalena Schertz were united in marriage March 11, 1866, and they have one child—David, who was born Dec. 25, 1867. Mrs. Schertz's father, Christian Schertz, was born in the Province of Lorraine, when it was a part of France, his birthplace being thirty miles from Metz. His father, Christian Schertz was a native of that country, and spent his entire life there. Mrs. Schertz's father came to America in 1837, in early manhood; a brother, who had come here previously sending him the money to pay his passage. He landed at New Orleans, and came thence to Peoria, and there procured employment by the day or month, and finally invested his savings in a horse and wagon and commenced teaming. There was but little money in circulation in this State then, and he used to take his pay in goods and blacksmith work. He would occasionally get a few dol-

lars in cash when settlers came along and employed him to take them to this county. One year he only obtained $10 in cash for his year's work, taking the rest of his pay in trade. He continued to live in Peoria till 1851, and then bought land three miles north-east of Washington, in Tazewell County. A part of the land was broken and a small house stood on the place; when he moved on to it, he engaged in further improvement. He carried on farming there until his death, Oct. 26, 1878. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Engel, and she was born thirty miles from Strasburg in the German province of Alsace, while it was under the dominion of France, March 1, 1819, being the date of her birth. Her father, John Engel, was born in the same place, and was reared and married and lived there until 1837. In that year he came to America with his wife and three children, setting sail from Havre, and landing in New York after a voyage of six weeks. He came directly to Illinois by the way of the Hudson River, Albany and Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence by Lake Erie to Cleveland, and from there on the canal to Cincinnati, and from there to his destination by the way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers. After his arrival at Peoria, he set out for this county and bought a tract of Government land in Worth Township, and built a log house with home-made furniture. He made a bedstead by inserting poles into holes that he had bored in the logs that formed the walls of the house, the other end of the poles being supported by posts. He had no horses and did all his farm work and marketing with oxen. He died May 12, 1871. The maiden name of his wife was Magdalena Fry, and she was born in Freiburg, France, now in Prussia and died on the home farm in 1864. The mother of Mrs. Schertz was eighteen years old when she came to America with her parents, and now resides with her children, of whom she has eight—John, Magdalena, Joseph, Kate, Christian, Andrew, Peter and Annie.

The clear well-balanced mind of our subject, and his good business qualifications, combined with tact and energy, have been important factors in bringing about his success in life, and making him a worthy representative of the native-born element of Woodford County, that is so prominent in sustaining and extending its material prosperity. The members of his family are consistent and valued members of the Omish Mennonite Church.

REV. GEORGE M. FREESE, whose home is located on section 35, Cruger Township, is a son of Jacob and Polly (Young) Freese. Jacob Freese was a native of Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1799. His wife was a Virginian, having been born in that State, about the year 1802. Their home was in Pickaway County, Ohio, where they continued to reside, never changing their abode till death took them to their home above.

Our subject was the eldest of a family of three children. He was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, March 6, 1825. He was employed until manhood, in the usual occupations of young people on a farm, going to school part of the year, and the other part straying in the woods and by the streams, when not engaged in assisting his parents in their work. In 1858 he came to Woodford County, Ill., and settled in what is now Montgomery Township, three years; later he removed to Cruger Township, where he located, and has since been one of its most valuable residents. He began preaching the Gospel, at intervals in Illinois. In September, 1865, he was ordained to the regular ministry. His work extended into McLean, Logan, Marshall and Woodford counties. He owns 162 acres in this county, on which he has erected a dwelling and other good buildings, having also fences, orchards and shrubbery. In addition Mr. Freese owns three eighties (240 acres), in Livingston County.

Jan. 6, 1848, witnessed the marriage of our subject and Miss Lavinia Long, who assumed the duties and responsibilities of matrimony, in Fairfield County, Ohio. Mrs. Freese is a daughter of Abraham and Eleanor Long, of Ohio. She was born in 1823, growing up into a gracious and lovely womanhood. The family of our subject consisted of nine children, named respectively: Lewis A.,

who, to his parents' great grief, departed this life when a young man of twenty-three years; Zethan E., whose death, when twenty-eight years old, was another affliction his parents were called upon to pass through; Elmina C.; George W., Levi J., Lavinia V., Eleanor E., Huldah L., and Jennie M. E.

Politically, our subject is a warm supporter of the third party, throwing all the weight of his influence and the means at his disposal into the great conflict of the home against the saloon, heartily desiring to see the prohibition of the liquor traffic become the law of the land.

LEVI STUMBAUGH occupies an honorable position among the intelligent, wide-awake farmers and stock-raisers of Illinois, who were born, reared and educated within her borders, and Woodford County, has no more useful or estimable citizen. His farm on section 33, Panola Township, with its handsome residence, ample and convenient outbuildings, well tilled fields, and other desirable improvements, is comparable with the best in the locality. Mr. Stumbaugh is a representative of a well known pioneer family of Tazewell County, and he was born there June 20, 1841, in the early years of its settlement, in the comfortable pioneer home of his parents, Samuel and Mary A. (Barcus) Stumbaugh, natives respectively of Pennsylvania, and Columbus, Ohio. His father was of German descent. He was reared in Ohio, and in 1835 came, in the opening years of a stalwart manhood, to Illinois, and for some time thereafter made his home in Peoria, which was nothing but a frontier fort at that time, built to protect the settlers around it from marauding Indians, this State being then in a very wild condition, with settlements few and scattered, giving but little sign of its present greatness as one of the wealthiest and most prosperous commonwealths in the Union. Mr. Stumbaugh engaged in operating a saw mill till his return to Ohio, for his promised bride, to whom he was joined in matrimony Aug. 20, 1840. He immediately came back with her to this State, and settled on a farm on section 25, Morton Township, Tazewell County, he having purchased its 160 acres of land from the Government at $1.25 an acre. It was timbered, and his first work was to build a log cabin for a dwelling, before he entered upon the hard task of clearing the land and preparing it for cultivation. During his residence on it he built a better and more commodious house, in which he lived till 1857, when he removed to Montgomery Township, this county, where his death occurred in 1880, he thus rounding out an honorable life of sixty-seven years, nine months and twenty-five days, his birth having occurred in Franklin County, Pa., March 25, 1812. As an early pioneer of this part of Illinois, he performed his share in reclaiming it from the wilderness, and his name and memory will ever be held in reverence by all who have an interest in the early history of Illinois, and in its rise and progress. We take the following from a contemporary newspaper, an account of his death, and concerning his domestic relations: "On the 5th day of September, 1851, Mary Ann, his first wife (mother of our subject) departed this life. On the 12th of Feb., 1854, he was married to Mrs. Mary Jane Merritt, daughter of Mr. Joseph Boucher, of this county. She lived only till the 24th of November, of the same year. He was again married the 7th of July, 1857, to Nancy Jane McPeak, who still survives him." He was the father of eight children, of whom the following are still living: Elizabeth, wife of W. A. Moore, of Tazewell County; Levi; Ellen, wife of W. M. Phillips, of Nebraska; Isabel, wife of S. W. Myers, of Enreka, Ill. We quote further from the same article just referred to: "Mr. Stumbaugh was a man of considerable property, and was much esteemed by his friends and neighbors. His remains were buried from the Buckeye Methodist Episcopal Church, Tuesday morning, the Rev. J. A. Souders, of Deer Creek, officiating."

Levi Stumbaugh, of whom we write, was reared to his majority amid the pioneer scenes of his native county, and has himself done much pioneer labor since starting out into the world to make his own living. He was but eight years old when he lost the tender care of his beloved mother, and at sixteen years of age he began life for himself, being

a manly, stalwart lad, self-reliant, and self-helpful. At that age he began to learn the carpenter's trade, and worked at that some five years. Oct. 30, 1863, was the date of a pleasant event in his life, as at that time he was united in wedlock to Miss Hannah Ramsey, who has since been to him all that a faithful, capable woman can be to the man with whom she unites her life. Four of their five children are living: Charles, married Sarah James of Delevan, Ill.; he also resides at that place. They have one son, George James Stumbaugh; Mollie, became the wife of August Kridner; they are also residents of Panola Township, and have two sons, Levi and Frank. Levi and May; and one died in infancy. Mrs. Stumbaugh is a native of this county, born Feb. 14, 1842, to James and Susan (Brown) Ramsey, pioneers of Woodford County. Her father was a native of Ohio, and was of mingled Scotch and Irish ancestry, while her mother's ancestors were probably Germans. Her great-uncle, Joseph Davis, was a soldier in the war of 1812. Her mother was a native of Maryland. To her parents were born ten children, seven of whom are living: Lydia, the widow of George McCloud, of Olio Township; Mrs. Stumbaugh; Mary, wife of William Oberlander, of Panola; Washington, a resident of Missouri; William lives in Missouri; Samuel, a resident of California; Joseph, of Strawn, Ill.; Nancy, the oldest child, married John Small, and died in March, 1889. Mrs. Stumbaugh's parents came from Ohio to Tazewell County in 1839, and after living there a short time, they located in Montgomery Township, this county, and were among its earliest settlers, and died there a number of years ago, having done their share in advancing the growth of this part of Illinois.

Our subject came from his old home in Tazewell County, to this county in 1871, and located on section 11, Panola Township. He made his home there several years till his removal to his present farm, which comprises 345 acres of excellent land, highly improved, and provided with substantial buildings, including a fine residence, conveniently arranged barn, and other necessary outhouses to correspond, and it is rightly classed among the best farms in the township. Mr. Stumbaugh makes a speciality of raising superior stock, his cattle and horses being of high grade, and some of the latter being blooded animals might be registered.

Mr. Stumbaugh is a prudent, conservative, business man, managing his affairs with discretion, and is considered one of our most useful citizens. He has accumulated the most of his property himself, though he inherited a share of his father's estate. In him the Democratic party finds a faithful supporter. He favors all practical schemes that will in any way benefit the township, and while serving as School Director and two terms as School Trustee, has endeavored to advance the cause of local education.

We invite the attention of our numerous readers to a fine view of the handsome residence and farm of our subject on another page of this volume.

THOMAS ALFRED McCORD is the oldest resident in point of settlement now living in Woodford County. He has witnessed its entire development from the wilderness, and has seen busy towns spring up, and fruitful farms evolved, where once in the vigor of early manhood he used to delight in hunting deer and other wild animals that then roamed the prairie, or haunted the groves and forests. Our subject is the son of one of the earliest pioneers of the county, and has himself done much pioneer work, actively assisting in the development of the marvelous resources of this region, and thus helping to make it a great agricultural center. He has a pleasant home in Roanoke Township, in which he is quietly passing the declining years of a useful life in well-earned ease and comfort, he and his worthy wife meriting the esteem and respect in which they are held by the entire community.

Mr. McCord was born in Overton County, Tenn., May, 30, 1809, while his father, William McCord, was born in North Carolina, March 27, 1788. The grandfather of our subject, James McCord, was a native of Ireland, born July 27, 1741, and he came to America in Colonial times with his parents when four years of age. From the best information at

hand, it is gathered that the great-grandparents of our subject located in North Carolina, and there his grandfather was reared to man's estate. He learned the blacksmith's trade, and carried it on in North Carolina, until his removal to Overton County, Tenn., of which he was a pioneer. The removal was made with teams across the mountains, and after his arrival he bought a tract of land in the primeval forests, and settling in the wilderness whither a few people had preceded him, he worked at his trade, cleared his land, and continued a resident of the county until his demise Nov. 4, 1824. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Scroggs. She was born April 18, 1750, and died in North Carolina, Nov. 12, 1789. Seven of their children were reared to maturity, among whom were three sons—John, James and William.

William, the father of our subject, was eighteen years old when the family moved to Tennessee. He had learned the trade of a blacksmith of his father, and followed that trade in Overton County, Tenn., until 1827, when he emigrated to Illinois, accompanied by his wife and eight children. The removal was made with teams, starting the 7th of June, and arriving at Twin Grove, McLean County, several weeks later. Four other families accompanied them, and they camped out on the way when night overtook them. The father bought a squatter's claim to a tract of land in Twin Grove, and there being no buildings on it, he at once erected a log cabin, splitting puncheon for the floor and making clapboards for the roof and door. There were no settlements in McLean County then, except in the groves, and the land was nearly all owned by the Government. On the present site of Bloomington, was one log cabin, the only habitation far and near. There were no flouring mills in that section of the country at that time, the only mill of any description being a corn-cracker at Twin Grove, operated by horse-power. The principal diet of the pioneers was corn meal and wild game. Mr. McCord commenced at once to clear a part of the grove, and the following year raised a crop of corn, planting it the 1st of June, and it ripened and made a good crop. He was unable to enter the land, and when it came into the market it was entered by other parties, and for that reason in 1831, he vacated the place, and came to what is now Woodford County, and made a claim before the land was surveyed in what is now called Greene Township. He built a log house on the place, which is still standing, and is probably the oldest building now in the county. When the land came into the market he entered it at the land office at Danville. He built a shop on the place, and worked at his trade a part of the time, and devoted the remainder to the task of improving a farm until his death, June 13, 1852. He was a man of sterling principles, and possessed excellent qualities of head and heart, and by his death an upright citizen and a kind neighbor, was lost to his community, and his family were deprived of a good husband and father. The maiden name of his wife was Jane McMurtry, and she was born in South Carolina, July 6, 1789. Her father, William McMurtry, was, it is thought, born in England. After coming to this country, he located first in South Carolina, and later in Overton County, Tenn., of which he was a pioneer. He removed from there about 1813, to Missouri, and became one of the first settlers west of the Mississippi River. He was a millwright by trade, and built a gristmill in that part of the country, which he operated, and he there spent the remainder of his days. He was a man of deeply religious nature, and was a preacher for many years. The mother of our subject died at his home in Greene Township, Aug. 6, 1870, at an advanced age. Twelve children were born of her marriage, of whom the following eleven grew to maturity: James S., Thomas A., Nancy E., Melinda, William M., Cyrus, Elizabeth, John O., Melmon, Allen A., and Francis.

The subject of this sketch was eighteen years old when he came to Illinois with his parents, so that he has a distinct recollection of the pioneer life here in the early days of settlement. The Kickapoo and Delaware Indians were then living at the head of the Mackinaw River, and deer, wolves, and other kinds of wild animals were plenty for some years. When the family settled at Twin Grove, Peoria, was known as Ft. Clark, and at Pekin, there were but few log houses. In 1832 our subject volunteered for service in the Black Hawk War, and after a campaign of thirty days, returned home.

He resided with his parents until the month of December, 1840, and then he married and located on a tract of Government land joining his father's farm in Greene Township, entering the land at the land office as soon as it came into the market. His first work was to build a log house, in which he and his bride commenced their married life. He afterward replaced that humble dwelling by a more commodious frame house, and completed the pioneer task of developing a farm from the wild uncultivated prairies. He placed his land under fine tillage, so that it yields abundant harvests, and made many substantial improvements, thus greatly increasing its original value, and making it one of the best farms in the neighborhood. From its cultivation he made money and accumulated a comfortable competence, and in 1877 rented it, and retired to private life. He came to Roanoke and purchased his present neat, pleasant home, and has ever since been an honored resident of this village.

On Dec. 2, 1840, Mr. McCord and Miss Sarah A. Arnold were united in marriage, and for nearly fifty years they have walked the path of life together hand in hand, sharing its joys, and dividing its sorrows. They have two children living: William M., who married Mary C. Ray, and has three children—Nettie, Willie, and Alma; Samira, who married Stephen E. Gibson, of Greene Township, and has six children—Ida J., Eva May, Clarence L., Thomas A., Zela, and Ralph. Our subject and his wife have been bereft of two of their children—James Alfred, and Nancy J.

Mrs. McCord was born in Franklin County, Ky., June 13, 1818. Her father, James Arnold, was born in the same county, and was a son of John Arnold, who was a native of either Virginia or Kentucky. His father, James Arnold, Mrs. McCord's great-grandfather, is supposed to have been a native of Virginia, who became one of the earliest settlers of Kentucky. He purchased a tract of timber land four miles from Frankfort, on the Kentucky River, and established a ferry across that stream, which he managed many years, residing there until his death. Mrs. McCord's grandfather was reared and married in Kentucky, and remained a resident of that State until 1823. In that year he removed to Putnam County, Ind., and was one of the early settlers of that section of the country. He improved a farm there, on which he resided until his death about 1837. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Nowell. She was a native of Kentucky, and spent her last years in Putnam County, Ind. The father of Mrs. McCord was a good mechanic, and worked a part of the time at the stone-mason's trade, and also at the shoemakers trade. In the year 1820 he removed to Warren County, Tenn., with his family, and lived there the ensuing five years, when he pulled up his stakes and set out for Putnam County, Ind., the removal in both cases being made with team. He bought a tract of forest-covered land, on which he built a log cabin for a home for his family. They had no stove, and Mrs. McCord's mother did all her cooking by the fireplace, and she also spun and wove all the cloth used in the family. Mr. Arnold remained a resident of Indiana, until 1836, when he once again became a pioneer of a new State, selling his property there, and removing with a team to Illinois, and locating in what is now Greene Township, Woodford County. The land was not in the market at the time, but he bought a claim on which he lived for awhile, and then removed to Lacon, Marshall County, and engaged in farming there a few years. After that he once more wended his way Westward, this time to Iowa, and settling in Clark County as a pioneer, took up a tract of Government land, which he improved and occupied a few years. He then sold, and returning to this county, resided in Secor, a few years. He then spent his last years with Mrs. McCord, dying in Roanoke. The maiden name of Mrs. McCord's mother was Jane Goodman, and she was born in Virginia, and died in the home of our subject, in Greene Township. Mrs. McCord's maternal grandfather was James Goodman, and he was a native of Virginia, and a pioneer of Kentucky, and finally died in Tennessee.

Mr. McCord's life has been one of industrious toil, which has been well repaid, as his work has been guided by discretion, shrewdness, and excellent judgment. He has always displayed the qualities which mark a good citizen, and has ever given his allegiance to the Democratic party. During his many years residence in Greene Township, he

took a conspicuous part in its government, and filled various offices of trust, with ability. Mrs. McCord is a worthy member of the Christian Church, and her life is guided by principles of piety and goodness.

HENRY LESCH is a member of the firm of Lesch, Fitschen & Co., contractors and builders, residing in Washburn. Our subject established himself in this business in 1878, and being a skilled mechanic, having a thorough knowledge of his calling in all its details, has won the confidence of the people, and has gained an enviable reputation as one of the leading contractors of this part of the county. He was born in Hessen, Germany, Feb. 21, 1851. His father, Wiegent Lesch, was born in the same place in 1815. He learned the trade of a tailor, which he followed many years, spending his entire life in his native country. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was Mary Wink. She was born in the same village as her husband and spent her whole life within its precincts.

The subject of this sketch and his sister Mary and sister Elizabeth, were the only children living. Elizabeth married William Riel, and lives in Lacon. Mary is married and lives in the old country. He of whom we write attended school the most of the time from the age of five to fourteen, and gained a substantial education in the excellent schools of his native village. He continued to live with his parents till he was sixteen years old, and then resolved to come to America, to see what life held for him in this great country, the Mecca of so many of his countrymen. Being without means he was obliged to borrow money with which to defray the expenses of his passage, so that when he arrived in Illinois, he was not only without funds, but was $100 in debt. He at once found employment on a farm, and worked out by the month in Putnam and Marshall counties, till 1872. He then went to McLean County, to learn the carpenter's trade, and after working there for a time he went to Marshall County, and was employed as a journeyman till 1878. In that year he formed a partnership with Anton Ehringer, in Washburn, to carry on the business of contractor and builder. In January, 1889, Mr. Ehringer retired from the firm, and the Fitschen Bros., purchased an interest in the business, and have continued with our subject ever since. They employ a number of men in their building operations, and aside from their business as contractors have a profitable trade in lumber, paints, oils, and, in fact, all kinds of builders' supplies.

Mr. Lesch was married March 12, 1878, to Miss Mary Moschel, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of John and Mary (Sandmeyer) Moschel. (For parental history see sketch of George Moschel.) Five children have blessed the marriage of our subject and his wife, namely: John H., W. George, Dora E., Emma M., Walter W.

Mr. Lesch is a representative self-made man, and while busily engaged in building up his own fortunes, has in no small degree contributed to the financial prosperity of his place of residence. His push, energy and correct judgment have been important factors in his success in life. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran Church, and his wife in that of the Reformed Church. He was for many years a Republican, but of late has affiliated with the Democratic party.

ARCHIE McSPARRAN, one of the self-made men of this county, resides on section 4, Minonk Township. Coming here in 1857, he bought 160 acres from the Illinois Central Railroad, paying $17 per acre. At that time the land was raw prairie, but falling to work with a good will, he has succeeded in paying for his land, which was bought on the credit system, and has made all the improvements necessary to bring up his farm to a fine and prosperous condition. He has erected the usual buildings required on a farm, putting them up substantially

and tastefully. His family residence is a dwelling planned for convenience and comfort, and is the home of as contented and cheerful a family as can be found in the township.

Our subject was born in County Derry, Ireland, in 1813, being the son of Archie and Margaret (Scott) McSparran. He was reared on his father's farm, enjoying but limited advantages in the way of an education, but employing his time usefully at whatever he could find to do, either in the way of work or study. Like many of his countrymen, he grew tired waiting for better times to come to his native place, so in 1839 he gathered up his belongings, and came to America. On his arrival he secured work on Long Island. Then, thinking to better his condition, he went to Pennsylvania, working in the different blast furnaces connected with the iron industry in various parts of the State. He was pleased with the country, and induced his parents and the remainder of the family to come to the United States. His parents established themselves in Blair County, Pa., on a farm, where the father died. His mother then came to Illinois, dying in her eighty-eighth year at her son's home in Minonk.

The parental family consisted of seven children, four of whom were boys: Archie; William, who died leaving a family in Iowa; Priscilla now resides with our subject; John died at Lacon, Ill.; Mary J. resides in Minonk; Joseph died in Minonk; and Esther, who resides in Kansas. Our subject worked diligently in Pennsylvania for many years, until hearing of cheaper lands in the West, he concluded to remove where he could pursue the occupation of his youth, rightly judging that agriculture offered a better opportunity for a poor man to rise, than anything else in which he could engage.

Politically, Mr. McSparran is a stalwart Republican, and takes a deep interest in the welfare of his adopted country. In religion he agrees fully with his Scotch-Irish ancestry, being an intelligent, earnest and devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, in which communion his family also find their religious home. In addition to general farming, Mr. McSparran pays considerable attention to stock-raising, using his shrewd good sense to supply what the market demands. Our subject is an honor to his adopted country, and a living evidence of what thrift combined with temperance can accomplish, in building up a comfortable fortune in a country where the Government does not crush out all the energies of the people by excessive tyranny.

THOMAS JOHN, a worthy and highly respected citizen of Metamora Township, was formerly actively connected with its farming interests, but having acquired a competence through the successful management of his farm, a fine and highly productive tract of land in this township, he retired to his present neatly-arranged, cozy home, located on section 21, where he and his sister Caroline are passing life pleasantly, surrounded by all the comforts and luxuries that they require, and free from the cares and burdens incident to tilling the soil.

Mr. John is descended from respectable Welsh stock, his grandfather, William John, having emigrated from Wales to this country, and become a pioneer of West Virginia, buying a tract of timber land in the wilds, and making his home there till he was summoned thence by death. His son Lewis, father of our subject, was born and reared in that county to a stalwart manhood, and when he came to settle in life he located on a tract of heavily wooded land that he had inherited from his father, and in the log house that he and his bride commenced their wedded life, all their children were born. They having no cook-stove, an almost unheard of luxury in those days in that part of the country, the mother cooked the meals by the fire in the open fireplace, and it was her busy hand that spun and wove the wool, flax and tow into cloth, with which she fashioned all the garments worn by her family. The father was always employed in cultivating his land, and he hewed out a substantial farm from the primeval forests of that region. His useful life was brought to a close by his death, Sept. 22, 1839, when he left his dear ones to mourn the loss of a tender husband and a

kind father, and his neighbors deplored the loss of good friend. His wife survived him twenty years, passing away at the home, at Metamora, Ill., in 1859. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Thomas, and she was a native of Culpeper County, Va. Her father was a native of Wales, but spent his last years in Virginia. There were five children born to the parents of our subject, of whom the following four grew to maturity: Eliza A., who died July 16, 1884; Thomas, of whom we write; James, a physician, now deceased; Caroline, the youngest member of the family, who makes her home with her brother. James came to Illinois, and locating in Metamora, practiced his profession here, and then went to Roanoke, and opened an office there. He was finally obliged to give up his practice on account of ill-health, and spent the last three or four years of his life with his brother Thomas and sister Caroline, dying May 26, 1881.

Thomas John, the subject of this brief biographical review, was born March 2, 1820, amid the beautiful scenes in Monongahela County, W. Va., on the old homestead that belonged to his father, and he was there reared to man's estate, gleaning an education in the old log schoolhouse, where the school was conducted on the subscription plan. After his father's death the management of the home farm fell to him, and he was successfully engaged in carrying it on until 1858, when he sold out there, having resolved to try farming on the rich, alluvial prairies of Illinois. The mother and sisters came by the way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peoria, and thence by stage to Metamora, while he came overland, the journey consuming twenty-four days. The family located on a tract of raw prairie land on section 27, Metamora Township, this county, which the brother of our subject, who had been here previously, had purchased prior to the arrival of the other members of the family. Our subject, with the help of others, at once commenced the pioneer task of building a house and preparing the land for cultivation. He improved the entire tract of land, developing a fine, well-appointed farm, that yielded abundant harvests in repayment for the hard labor he bestowed on its tillage. Mr. John and his sister continued to reside on it till 1881, when he decided to retire from farming, and he then bought his present place of residence. There is a comfortable set of frame buildings here and ten acres of land, pleasantly located one mile east of town.

Mr. John inherited from a sterling Welsh ancestry, industrious and sober habits, and those good traits of character that make him a desirable citizen, a good neighbor and a kindly, honest man, whom his fellow-men can but trust and respect.

PETER ROTH. America has become the home of very many foreigners, and among them all, none have more heartily made themselves a part of the nation, and more firmly identified themselves with the country of which they are residents, than those men and women who have come from the little province of Alsace. They are usually industrious, intelligent and devoted to the interests of their adopted home. To this class the subject of our sketch belongs. Alsace was his birthplace, and the date of his birth was Feb. 12, 1829. His parents were Nicholas and Anne Roth. He can scarcely recollect his father, as death removed him from the family group when our subject was only four years of age. Three years after his mother had been left a widow, she took her family of small children, of whom Mr. Roth is the third in order of birth, and sought a home across the ocean. They took passage in a sail-vessel at the port of Havre, and for the succeeding forty-two days were braving the storms of the Atlantic, finally reaching land and anchoring at New York City. The mother with her children came West to Butler County, Ohio, and there located for a time. Our subject was early compelled to earn his own living, as they had little of this world's goods, but being strong and healthy, he was successful in supporting himself and adding to the comforts of his mother's house. When a boy he received limited educational advantages, as through a mistaken idea of economy the teachers of that day were scarcely less ignorant than the

pupils. Besides that, our subject was compelled to work most of the year, and so the education which he has received has been obtained since he has reached manhood. He is well-read on all the principal topics of interest of this day, and besides is well-informed concerning the past history of his own country, and also that of his adopted home. He has been a farmer ever since he was tall enough to grasp the handle of the plow, and in the department of agriculture is especially well-read. Although having no political aspirations, Mr. Roth has been prevailed upon to hold several local offices, including those of Road Commissioner and School Director. He supports the Democratic ticket, and is in full sympathy with their views. Religiously he and his family are consistent members of the Evangelical Church, of which they are regular attendants. Socially they are welcomed into the most select circles of society, and entertain the best people of the county, in their pleasant and hospitable manner.

Mr. Peter Roth passed the first seven years of his life in his native land, and then accompanied his mother to America, where he grew to manhood in Butler County, Ohio. When sixteen years of age he commenced to "paddle his own canoe," and has handled the oars to the greatest advantage ever since. At first he was a farm laborer, receiving his wages by the month and year, and continued in this way for twelve years or more. In 1856 he came West to Tazewell County, Ill., and was a resident there for many years. Soon after arriving in that county he established a home of his own, being united in marriage with Miss Bena, daughter of Jacob and Barbara Naffziger. This lady was born Jan. 8, 1837, in Butler County, Ohio, although her parents were natives of Germany. When she was one year of age her parents removed to Woodford County, Ill., and made their home in Worth Township, being early settlers in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Naffziger did not remain in Worth Township, but afterward settled in Panola Township, where the remainder of their lives was passed, and where they died, the father on March 5, 1888, and the mother a number of years ago. They were for a long time prior to their decease, members of the Evangelical Church. Mr. and Mrs. Roth were married Feb. 8, 1857, and are the parents of eight children, namely: Lydia, who became the wife of John Krug, a resident of Panola Township; Daniel, also a resident of Panola Township; John, Jacob, Peter (deceased), Emma, Amelia and Ella, all at home.

Accompanied by his family, in 1873 Mr. Roth changed his abode from Tazewell County, to Woodford County, where he has since been an honored and prosperous citizen. When he settled on his present farm on section 16, in Panola Township, it was in appearance very different from what may be seen to-day. Then it was little changed from the primitive condition of nature, scarcely cultivated and little improved, but now he owns 320 acres of fine land, covered with grain in the summer, and dotted here and there with substantial farm buildings. Upon it he has erected a comfortable home, filled with all the necessities and many of the luxuries of life. Mr. Roth is among the leading representative Alsatian-American citizens, and is in full sympathy with our Republican form of government.

EDWARD STEPHENS, a resident of Linn, represents the industrial interests of Woodford County, as a shrewd, capable farmer, and as a successful manufacturer of tile. He has been variously identified with the agriculture, commerce and manufactures of this part of Illinois since the days of 1854, and, though not an early settler, may be classed among the enterprising, energetic pioneers who have done so much toward placing this county in the front ranks of the counties of this State, as regards development and a flourishing and prosperous condition.

Our subject was born in the town of Coeymans, Albany Co., N. Y., Jan. 11, 1829. His father, Archibaldus Stephens, was a native of the same town, while his father, bearing the same name, was born in Rensselaer County, and was there reared in pioneer days. It is said that his father gave him a tract of land among the primeval wilds of Scho-

harie County, and that he went to occupy it, but in that sparsely settled region he found the wolves so plentiful and troublesome, pursuing him at every opportunity, and making life a burden to him, that he wisely concluded to return to more civilized parts. He then took up his abode in Albany County, where he purchased the half of a township, and being a man of uncommon energy, perseverance and enterprise, possessing great powers of endurance, and a fine physique, he became very prosperous, and was one of the leading citizens of the place, and held many prominent offices of trust. He erected a saw and gristmill, and engaged extensively in the manufacture of lumber, etc., while superintending the improvement of a large farm. He was a man of great influence and secured the appointment of the father of our subject as cadet to the military academy at West Point from his district, and he was graduated from that institution in due time, and was appointed captain of the State militia. He subsequently turned his attention to farming on his retirement from the army, and spent his last years on his farm, dying in 1869. He was too old and feeble at the breaking out of the late Civil War to take any part in it. Doubtless, if the war had occurred in his younger days, he would have been an invaluable officer, as his knowledge of military tactics was accurate, and he was a man of spirit and patriotism. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Harriet Haines, and she was a native of the same township as her husband, a daughter of Stephen Haines, a prominent pioneer of Albany County. He bought a large tract of land there amid the primeval forests, and resided in that locality many years. He spent his last days in Long Island. The mother of our subject is still living in her old home in Albany County, and is now aged and venerable. Eight of the children born of her pleasant wedded life were reared to maturity.

Edward, of whom we write, grew to man's estate in the town of his nativity, and received an excellent education in the local schools. At the age of twenty-one he entered into the mercantile business in that place, and was thus profitably engaged till 1854. In that year the ambitious young man, desiring a broader field for the exercise of his talents, resolved to try life in the great West, and decided to cast his lot with the pioneers of Illinois, for this State had not even then wholly emerged from its original wildness, although it had been in the hands of the white man for many years. After his arrival here, he turned his attention to farming, buying land in Marshall County, and was thus engaged till the breaking out of the war, and then he resumed mercantile pursuits once more, managing stores at Lacon and Sparland for Messrs. Fisher & Chapman for a time. His next venture was as a grain merchant, he being employed in buying grain for the army. After the war he went to Roanoke and bought property, and carried on a mercantile business besides superintending other interests, he being one of the first two merchants to locate there. Before the war he had bought land in Lynn Township, now included in his present farm, and in 1862 he established his home on it. At the time of his purchase it was in a wild condition, fresh from the hands of nature. In the years that followed he spared neither time nor expense in its improvement, erected an excellent set of buildings, placed the land under fine tillage, and to-day it is one of the best farms in that locality. His property in Roanoke is still in his possesssion, and he owns other valuable property in Washburn. In the year 1883 he commenced the manufacture of tile in Linn, and has conducted this business successfully ever since. He has suitable buildings, with good machinery, and every convenience for the manufacture of a superior kind of tile, that meets with a ready sale, and for which there is a large and growing demand among the farmers throughout this part of Illinois.

Mr. Stephens was married, Feb. 6, 1850, to Miss Susan R. Kniffin, and they have four children. Their son William married Ann Corbin, and they have five children. Melvin married Ollie Smiley, and they have four children; Josephine married Leverett Wallace, and they have four children. Mrs. Stephens has made our subject an admirable wife, has taken an intelligent interest in his affairs, and has made his home a pleasant retreat after the cares and labors of a busy day. She is, like himself, a native of New York, born in Saratoga County,

Dec. 2, 1832. Her parents were Gilbert and Susannah (Wieks) Kniffin, both, so far as known, natives of New York. They resided in Saratoga County for some years, and then removed to Albany County, where they spent their last days. Mrs. Stephens' maternal grandfather, Solomon Wicks, was a farmer and mechanic, and died in Greene County.

It will be seen in the perusal of this sketch that our subject is a man of versatile talents, ready adaptability and wide experience, who possesses keen foresight and a well-trained capacity for business, and that these much-to-be desired traits have not only contributed to his own personal good fortune, but have been of inestimable value in furthering the various interests of the county. As a good citizen, he takes a genuine interest in political matters, and in early life was a believer in the doctrines of the Whig party, and naturally on the formation of the Republican party he fell into its ranks, and has ever since been one of its stalwart supporters.

NELSON N. CONVERSE, a sturdy representative of the sons of New England, who have aided so largely in the building up of the Great West, is classed among the intelligent, skilful farmers of Roanoke, who are most important factors in promoting its material prosperity. He owns and successfully manages a good, highly productive farm on section 5, and here he and his pleasant family are enjoying the comforts of a cozy home.

The birthplace of our subject was far away amid the beautiful hills of Vermont, in Grafton, Windham County, and the date of his birth was Sept. 13, 1843. His father, Newton R. Converse, was born on the same farm as himself, while his grandfather, Robert Converse, was born and reared in Marlboro, N. H. He crossed over into the Green Mountain State when a young man, and buying a tract of timbered land in Grafton, settled down to the hard life of a pioneer. A small piece of the land was cleared, but there were no buildings on it. He first constructed a rude log house and then went back to New Hampshire for his promised bride, Miss Edna Hale, a native of that State, then but nineteen years old, two years his junior. They commenced housekeeping in the aforementioned primitive abode, and he cleared a good farm, on which they made their home till death called them to a better. The father of our subject was reared in the home of his birth, and in due course of time the old homestead come into his possession, and in turn he brought his bride there, his parents living with them till their demise. After a peaceful wedded life of many years, the good wife died at the old home in 1884. Her maiden name was Mary Stuart, and she was a native of Londonderry, Vt., a daughter of Joseph Stuart, a miller, and later a farmer, who spent his last years in Andover, Vt. In 1887 the father of our subject sold the place of his birth, where his entire life up to that time had been passed, and then visited his children in Vermont, Massachusetts, Michigan and Illinois, and finally died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wright, in Groton, Mass., in August, 1888. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom five grew to maturity and are now living, as follows: Mary E., wife of the Rev. E. W. White, a Baptist minister in Jackson, Mich.; Martha, wife of Henry Wright, of Groton, Mass.; Sarah and Clara, both of whom are teachers.

Nelson Converse, of this sketch, was the first born and is now the only son living. He was reared and educated in his native county, having good school advantages, and in the winter of 1866 and 1867 he utilized his knowledge by teaching. He first visited Illinois in 1866, and in 1868 came here to settle permanently, having been much impressed with the many advantages of soil, climate, etc. In 1869 he invested some of his money in the farm that he still owns and occupies on section 5, Roanoke Township. It comprises 120 acres of choice land, under admirable tillage, so that it yields abundant harvests, and is amply supplied with buildings and all needed improvements.

Mr. Converse was married to Miss Alcesta T. Hall, a native of New York, and a daughter of Erastus and Mary Hall. Their pleasant wedded

life has been blessed to them by the birth of five children, namely: Charles W., Edith E., Ethel C., Newton E. and Elmer R.

Mr. Converse possesses thrift, energy, a capacity for well-directed labor, and other traits characteristic of his New England origin, and he is classed among the most deserving and useful members of this community, both as a man and as a citizen. His wife is a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and Mr. Converse is never backward in helping others less fortunate than himself. Politically, he is a stanch upholder of the Republican party.

THOMAS CRIBBEN. The results of a long and well-spent life are admirably illustrated in the subject of this biography, who, in 1863 took up his residence in Palestine Township, in company with his mother and step-father, and thereafter labored assiduously and they succeeded in the accumulation of a fine property.

Thomas Cribben was a native of the village of Ballybane, parish of Annagh, of County Mayo, Ireland. He was born Jan 7, 1847, and is the son of James Cribben, who was of pure Irish ancestry, and a native of the parish of Baken, County Mayo, and was reared to farming pursuits in his native county. He there married Miss Bridget Tarpy, who was born and reared not far from the home of her husband in the same place as her son, and is the daughter of William and Hanora (Raftery) Tarpy, who were closely allied to some of the first families of counties Mayo and Galway, where they spent their entire lives. The mother was a native of the city of Galway. The paternal grandfather of the mother of our subject, was Thomas Tarpy, who came of some of the best Irish blood, which has been transferred to a number of American families of the same name, and who figured prominently both in church and State.

Thomas Tarpy married Miss Margaret Murphy, who was also a daughter of a family prominent in County Mayo for more than 200 years, and, who were closely allied to the O'Connor stock of Roscommon County, of which the last monarch of Ireland was a kinsman, and the celebrated Charles O'Connor, of New York City, who died a few years ago, was of the same family. The maternal grandfather of our subject died when his daughter was a child of eight years, leaving eight children to the care of the widowed mother, who reared them carefully and conscientiously to honest and worthy lives.

After their marriage in March, 1845, James Cribben and his wife began house-keeping on the farm in County Mayo, where their only child, Thomas, our subject, was born. In 1849 they set sail for America, embarking at Liverpool, and after a voyage of six weeks, and before they had reached their destination, the husband and father died, after ten days illness, and his remains were consigned to an ocean burial. The mother and son pursued their melancholy journey, finally reaching New York City, and thence proceeded to Savannah, Ga., where some of the father's relatives had settled. Mrs. Cribben, however, suffering under a sense of loss and bereavement, returned not long afterward to her native land, where she remained two years, then leaving her son with his grandmother, she once more crossed the Atlantic, settling this time in Philadelphia, Pa. Five years later she was married to John Connell, a native of Black Rock, County Cork, and who had emigrated to America when a young man. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Connell came to Illinois, settling in Woodford County. They came to the present farm in 1863, after having lived in LaSalle County for a time. Their efforts in building up a home were crowned with success, and they became well-to-do. Mr. Connell died at his homestead April 17, 1879, at the age of about sixty-five years. He was an honest, hard working, temperate man, respected by his neighbors. He voted the Democratic ticket and in religion, was a Catholic. Mrs. Bridget Connell, is a well preserved and an intelligent old lady, and an active worker in the Roman Catholic Church, in which she has been reared from childhood.

Thomas Cribben was given a good education while living with his grandmother in Ireland, under the instruction of a gentleman, who had been his mother's teacher in her girlhood, and who lived to be over one hundred years old. He came when a

boy to America, in 1859, proceeding directly to Rutland, La Salle Co. Ill., to his mother and stepfather. He has devoted his life in a great measure to the care and comfort of his mother, to whom he is more attached than to any woman living. In consequence he remains unmarried. He is a faithful adherent of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church in which he was reared, and in politics is an uncompromising Democrat. He has held all the local offices and represented Palestine Township in the County Board of Supervisors, and is now a member of the Board, having represented the township for five years.

JOHN DETWEILER, general farmer and stock-raiser, resides on a good farm of 120 acres, which is well improved and located on section 21, Montgomery Township, to which he came in 1867 from section 10, same township, and has continued to live in this place until the present. He came to Illinois in 1850 and after living some months in this county, removed to McLean County, and two years later returned to this county, where he has remained ever since. He was born in the province of Lorraine in 1838 on the 13th of August. He is therefore a Frenchman, although this province is now a part of the German Empire. The father of our subject, John Detweiler, was born in Bavaria, and was a miller by trade. When sixteen years old he went to Lorraine and was apprenticed to a miller to learn the trade, and while a resident of that province, married Miss Catherine A. Moser, who was born and reared in Lorraine but came of German and Swiss ancestry. After marriage this couple lived in Lorraine, throughout their comparatively uneventful life, the mother leaving the scene of her earthly pilgrimage, when her son, our subject, was thirteen months old. The father survived his faithful wife some twenty years, when he too fell asleep and was gathered to his fathers. Following the death of his mother our subject was taken to the home of his uncle, Jacob Miller, and accompanied him to America in 1850. They having no children of their own adopted him, and to them he has always given a son's love and devotion. On arriving in America, they set out for the West and located in Montgomery Township, this county, and while here Mrs. Miller died July 18, 1889, being in her eighty-fifth year. Mr. Miller still survives and makes his home with his adopted son, Mr. John Detweiler. Although seventy-eight years old he is yet active and healthy and his cheerful hearty disposition makes him a welcome and agreeable member of the family of his son.

Our subject received the elements of a good education in France, becoming a fluent conversationalist in German and French, and later became quite proficient in the use of English and can still speak all three languages. He was first married in this county to Miss Elizabeth Gerber, a native of Lorraine, and who came to America in 1846 while a mere child, making the journey in the care of her parents, who made only a short stop in New York, coming at once to this county, where they built up a comfortable home.

Mrs. Detweiler departed this life in 1883 being then thirty-eight years old, leaving besides her husband three children to mourn her loss—Joseph, John and Elizabeth, who are all at home. Mrs. Detweiler was the daughter of John and Barbara (Gerber) Gerber. The father died in this township several years ago. The mother is yet living on a farm with her son.

Our subject was married a second time near Dry Grove, McLean County, to Miss Elizabeth Miller, a native of Bavaria, Germany, where she was born Aug. 18, 1852, being a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Woelber) Miller, who were also natives of Germany, the father being a farmer in that country and coming to the United States with his family in 1868. Immediately on their arrival in New York, they started Westward, locating in this county and later removed to Dry Grove Township, McLean County, where they yet reside.

Mr. Miller is seventy-two years of age and his wife is sixty-eight, but although so old, they are yet vigorous and active and enjoy a fair share of health and good spirits. They are devoted members of the old school Mennonite Church, and reflect great credit upon their religious principles.

Mrs. Elizabeth Detweiler, was reared and educated in Germany, where she received a good training in school and at home and came to this country with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Detweiler are the parents of one child—Ida Amelia. They are members of the Mennonite Church and good, consistent Christians. Mr. Detweiler takes very little active part in political affairs, but has been prevailed upon to accept some minor offices, which he fills with credit, casting his ballot with the Republican party.

JOHN J. SNYDER. Since the early days of the settlement of Woodford County, the Snyders, from father to son unto the third generation, have borne a prominent part in bringing about its development and in advancing its sturdy growth from the wilderness to its present flourishing condition. The grandfather of our subject, Nicholas Snyder, a native of Germany, was one of the early pioneers of this county, coming here with his wife and children before its organization as a county. (For further facts concerning his life see sketch of John Snyder). His son Isaac, father of our subject, was but a boy of eleven or twelve years when they came from his birthplace in the German Fatherland to this country, but in a few years, under the influence of the pioneer life that obtained here at that early day, he grew to a manly, vigorous manhood, and took his place among the pioneers who were building up the county, and is to this day prominently connected with its leading interests. We will now refer to the position the subject of this sketch holds in regard to this, his native county. He is identified with its agriculture as a well-trained, intelligent farmer and stock-raiser, who is conducting these interests very prosperously on a part of the old homestead in Partridge Township, where his birth occurred July 11, 1851.

Isaac Snyder, the father of our subject, was but ten or twelve years of age when his parents brought him from his birthplace in the German Fatherland to this country. There were but few settlements in this county, which then formed a part of Tazewell County, and these were confined to the timber. He grew to a vigorous, stirring manhood amid the wild scenes where his parents had established their home, remaining with them until he had attained man's estate, and then finding employment at various kinds of work elsewhere. Sometimes he was engaged in chopping wood at twenty-five cents a cord, at another in splitting rails for twenty-five cents a hundred, and again plowing corn at twenty-five cents a day. When he was twenty-one Horace Crocker hired him to work for him, agreeing to give him his board and $150 a year. He was employed by him for six months in building dams across the Black Partridge Creek, and several times when the dam would be nearly completed, it would be washed out by the water and all the work would have to be done over again. Mr. Crocker became discouraged and offered to sell his interest in the mill and in 120 acres of land for $1,000, and Mr. Snyder and his brother closed with his offer and paid $100 down and the balance in cash in nine years' time. They succeeded in building a dam that withstood the water and floods, and successfully operated the mill together two years. At the expiration of that time Mr. Snyder traded his interest in it for land, and turned his attention to farming. A few years later he erected another saw and gristmill on the Black Partridge and managed it with good financial results, on the same spot several years. At length he removed the machinery of the mill to Roanoke, and introducing steam power, has operated a mill there ever since. In connection with milling he has been interested in farming very extensively, and owns large tracts of land in this county. He is greatly interested in the Roanoke Coal Company, being one of its largest stock-holders. He is a man of more than ordinary enterprise, possessing a clear, cool head, and is accounted one of the most successful men in the county, and he is numbered among its wealthy, substantial citizens. The maiden name of our subject's mother was Hannah Leighton, and she is a native of Ohio. Of the children born of her pleasant wedded life four are living, as follows: John J. our subject; Margaret, wife of Samuel Ramsey; Kate, wife of Benjamin Ellis; Isabelle, wife of Lewis J. Johnson.

As soon as large enough, the subject of this

John Taunton

Hannah Tanton

sketch commenced to assist his father in the mill and on the farm when not attending the public schools, where he gleaned a good education. He remained an inmate of the parental household until his marriage. This important event in his life took place Sept. 19, 1876, on which date he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Catherine B. Kisewether. She is a native of Germany and a daughter of Michael and Mary Kisewether. Four children complete the happy household circle of our subject and his wife—Rosa May, Josephus F., John Franklin and Essie Ellen.

Since taking charge of the homestead Mr. Snyder has made many valuable improvements, among which may be mentioned the sinking of two flowing wells, one near the house and the other in the pasture, from each of which a constant stream of clear, cool water is sent forth the year round.

Mr. Snyder's career as an agriculturist, and as a man and a citizen reflects credit on his native township. As a man of genuine public spirit he interests himself in everything that will in any way promote its welfare, and contributes liberally toward all plans for its improvement. As School Director, educational matters in the township have received careful attention from him. He has done good service as Road Commissioner, and the excellent highways in this locality are partly due to his energetic labors while in that office. In politics he stands among the Democrats, intelligently voting the ticket of his party, and by voice advocating its principles.

JOHN TANTON. The career of the subject of this notice has been one of phenomenal prosperity. Gifted by nature with more than ordinary business capacities, he has arisen from a modest position in life to one of wealth and prominence, and is among the largest property holders in Woodford County. He is now retired from active labor and occupies a comfortable home in El Paso, of which he has been a resident the past eight years. He is the owner of more than 2,000 acres of valuable land in this and Livingston County, and has a large amount of property in the vicinity of El Paso, and Gridley, McLean County. All of his property is well improved and well tiled, thus adding to its financial value, as well as to its appearance.

Mr. Tanton came to Illinois, as early as 1837 and was one of the pioneers first venturing into this county, and settling upon land which he purchased of a pioneer, the original purchase being eighty acres, which has been added to up to the present time. Becoming identified with the interests of the great and growing West, Mr. Tanton at once proceeded to the task before him of cultivating the soil, then in a primitive condition, and otherwise effecting improvements, after which he devoted his attention largely to stock-raising. Everything under his hands seemed to grow and prosper, and it is probable that his worldly possessions all told would aggregate at least $100,000. A study of his life and the elements of character which enabled him to overcome obstacles before him, with the case of a wave carrying pebbles out into the boundless depths of ocean, would be beneficial to every young man starting out in life, with high ambitions and unlimited hopes. Youth is addicted to building "castles in the air," and certainly if Mr. Tanton ever indulged leisure moments in this happy way, he has lived to see them not crumble away as happens too often in this busy work-a-day world, but come to a glorious realization beyond even the dreams of boyhood.

A native of England, our subject was born in Devonshire, August 15, 1803, and comes from pure English stock. His father, William Tanton, was a well-to-do farmer who spent his entire life in his native Devonshire, and died at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. He was a hard working man and he accumulated a comfortable property. He married a lady of his own shire, Miss Elizabeth Padicomb, who passed away when about fifty years of age and many years prior to the decease of her husband. She was a lady possessing estimable qualities, and a devoted member of the Church of England. She carried her religion through the daily walks of life, and in a quiet way was benevolent, giving freely and without stint

wherever she had an opportunity to benefit some needy one.

To the parents of our subject there were born seven children, of whom John was the eldest son and second child. There were four sons and three daughters, and he is the only survivor. He was carefully reared under the home roof, and his parents endeavored to instill into his mind during his early years, those principles which carry a man safely through the storms of an adverse world and anchor him at last on the shores of eternity. His education was obtained in the home schools, which he usually attended a few months out of the year. But like other boys of that time, he was unable to give the attention to the development of the mind which he so earnestly desired, for manual labor was required of him as soon as he was old enough to be of any service. He lived in England, until a man of thirty-three years and then still unmarried, set out, in 1836, for America. His destination was Illinois, and soon after landing we find him established in Woodford County, of which he is still a resident. Here he found a wife and helpmate, being married March 31, 1842 to Miss Hannah Grove. This lady is noted for the purity of her character and the exactness of her Christian life, for taking the Bible as her guide, she has aimed to benefit every one about her and has secured the love of all who have met her. She has been a most excellent and cherished companion to her husband, whose pathway she has lightened by her presence and whose aid she has been for many years. She is a member of the Christian Church, and her influence has led many souls out of darkness into light, and the precious jewels in her crown of happiness will be the souls she has saved.

Mrs. Tanton is of excellent old Pennsylvania stock and was born June 13, 1818 in Harrison County, Ind. Thus from her youth she was familiar with the scenes of pioneer life, and learned all those duties which devolved upon women of the West. When she was yet quite young her parents removed to Woodford County, Ill., where she was reared to womanhood. They settled near Metamora, where they continued to reside until passing away at a ripe old age. The household circle consisted of eleven children, ten of whom are living. One son fell while fighting for his country during the late rebellion. The survivors are honest and worthy people, well-to-do and universally respected.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born three children, one of whom, a son, John, died at the age of five years, seven months, and ten days. Thomas O. has been twice married and lives on a farm in Cazenovia Township; Mary E. is the wife of Jacob Keller and they live on a farm owned by our subject. Mr. Tanton has meddled very little with political affairs, but keeps himself well posted upon current events, and votes the straight Democratic ticket.

It is eminently fitting that people of age and worth, pioneers of Woodford County, honored citizens and friends, should be represented by portraits in an ALBUM of the county for which they have done so much; thus we are pleased to present the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Tanton on another page, as representatives of that strength of mind, depth of character, and generosity of heart, which has raised Woodford County, to its enviable position in the ranks of the foremost counties of Illinois.

CHARLES GRIESER, who resides on section 7, Palestine Township, is a leading farmer and representative citizen of this county. He was born in Metamora Township, April 5, 1852, and his father, Joseph Grieser, was a native of Wurtemburg, Germany. As far back as the ancestry of the family can be traced, they were natives of the same country. Joseph Grieser was reared to manhood under the parental roof, but after attaining his majority bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed for America. On landing in this country, he came directly to Woodford County, locating two miles from Metamora, where he developed a farm in the midst of the timbered regions. Later, he sold that land and purchased a farm in Palestine Township. He at first bought seventy acres, but, as his financial resources increased, he added to that amount until he owned 220 acres, which he placed under a high state of

cultivation. Wishing to retire from active life, he then sold his farm to his two sons, Charles and John, and removed to Secor, where he is now living in ease and quiet. Mr. Grieser has been twice married, his first union being with Christina Hillabrand, who was born in Germany, but at an early age became a resident of America. While the family were living in Springdale, Ill., she was called to her final home, dying on the 25th day of October, 1857, at the age of twenty-five years. She left three children, who are still living: Charles, of this sketch, Anna and Joseph, all of whom are living upon farms in this county. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Grieser wedded Mrs. Minnie Buyer, the marriage being celebrated in Peoria. The lady was also a native of Germany, and in early womanhood became the wife of John Buyer, a cooper of Peoria, who died in that city. They were the parents of one child, John, who is now engaged in farming in Palestine Township. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Grieser has been blessed with one child, Lizzie, who still makes her home with her parents in Secor.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in Palestine Township, and received such educational advantages as the district schools at that time afforded. His boyhood days were spent in much the same manner as other farmer lads, and he remained at home until attaining his majority, when he started out in life for himself. He has made farming his principal occupation, and since 1868 has resided upon the farm where he still lives. In 1882, when his father resolved to retire from active life, in connection with his brother he purchased the land, which he has since operated. His portion comprises 140 acres, which is in a highly cultivated condition, indicating the thrift and industry of the owner. The stock which he raises is of the best grades, all the necessary improvements have been made, and his home is one the most pleasant in the community. His life has been an industrious one, for since the time when he was old enough to handle a plow he has engaged in farm work, and the success which has crowned his efforts is well merited.

In Metamora, Mr. Grieser was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Strausmyer, a native of Pennsylvania, born in Montgomery County, July 25, 1855. Her parents were Andrew and Victoria (Hagely) Strausmyer, both of whom were natives of Germany, but in early life emigrated to America, locating in Pennsylvania, where their marriage was celebrated. They afterward became residents of Missouri, where the mother died Dec. 29, 1882. Her husband still survives her, and now finds a pleasant home with his daughter, Mrs. Grieser.

An interesting family of three children have been born to our subject and his worthy wife—Dena L., Andrew and Mary. The parents are members of the Catholic Church of Metamora, and rank among the best citizens of the community in which they make their home. In politics Mr. Grieser is a Democrat, and is a prominent citizen of Palestine Township.

JOHN HEFLER. It is with pleasure that we trace the history of this prominent resident of Woodford County through the principal years of his past life. We cannot follow it through every changeful year, every devious path, but only as a passing wanderer follows the course of a river through a valley,—sometimes approaching the bank, then far from the shore, but in the end arriving at the same point where the river rushes into the sea. In like manner we follow the principal events in the history of Mr. Hefler.

At present a resident of Panola Township, farming on section 11, our subject is prosperous and enjoying the comforts which money can obtain, and good health can allow. He is a native of Germany, where his birth occurred June 9, 1833. His father and mother were named respectively Adam and Catherine Hefler, also born in the Fatherland. These people were of good family, and comfortably situated, but hoping to increase their personal property they sought America, taking with them their son, our subject, who had then arrived at the fourteenth year of his life. He had previous to his departure received a good common school education in his own tongue, but after coming to the

United States, he had no further opportunity to attend school and therefore has gained his English education by mingling with the English people and studying their ways and habits. It was in the spring of 1848 that he emigrated here, taking passage at the port of Bremen in a sail vessel, and after an ocean voyage of forty days, during which time the weather was fair and the waters tranquil, the ship landed at Baltimore. Thence our subject moved westward to Butler County, Pa., and there worked as a farm laborer. When he was about eighteen years of age, he commenced to earn a living by his trade of a blacksmith, which he has followed more or less ever since. As a renter in Butler County, he remained several years gradually working his way to independence. In 1859 he removed to West Virginia, which was not then a separate State, but a part of the Old Dominion. He located near the city of Parkersburg, which was his home for a period of five years. He has the reputation of having fired the first Union gun in West Virginia, the gun being loaded with heavy shot. This occurred in June of the year 1861, and the shot was aimed at a Rebel horse-thief, who had been invading the vicinity and stealing horses from Northern residents. Mr. Hefler was so far successful that the bullet lodged in the shoulder of the thief, who, it may be presumed, occasioned no further trouble. For three years thereafter Mr. Hefler was identified with the West Virginia Home Guards, and did a great deal of good for the Union cause in his own immediate locality.

The faithful companion of Mr. Hefler, and his valued co-laborer is his wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Henning. To her he was married in Pennsylvania in February, 1855. They have become the parents of twelve children of whom nine have lived to maturity, namely: John, who lives in McLean County, Ill.; Adam, a resident of Panola Township, located on section 14; George, also living in Panola Township, and farming on section 13; William; Charles; Lucy; Anna; Ida and Mary. Three have been taken from the home circle by death: Eliza, Catherine, and one who died in infancy.

In the winter of 1865, our subject, with his wife and family came to live in Woodford County, settling on their present farm. He first purchased eighty acres, which was in a condition similar to all other farms in that then uncultivated county, being unimproved, raw prairie, but having fertile soil, and only needing the magic wand which hard work wields over even the soil of the earth, to make it bloom as a garden. Mr. Hefler has been an honored resident of this county for the past twenty-four years, and has become the owner of 260 acres of fine land, through his exertions and the assistance of his wife, who has willingly done her share of the labor, which as every pioneer woman knows is anything but light.

Mr. Hefler has not had the time to devote to political affairs which others have had, but has always been a devoted subject of the American Government. He votes for the Republican ticket usually, and was for many years School Director in his district, and aided in securing good teachers for the community, and elevating the cause of education general. He and his wife belong to the Lutheran Church, and are everywhere welcomed as representing the worth and intelligence of the community. They have avoided the foolish vanities and the frivolous trifles of life, which consume body and soul as the locust consumed Egypt, and have aimed only at its sublimest ends, its worthiest ambitions, and thus are eminently worthy of the success which they enjoy.

SOLOMON L. ZINSER, A. B., who is engaged in the drug business at Minonk, Ill., was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, on the 24th day of September, 1830. His early boyhood days were there passed, and in its schools he began his education. At the age of eighteen years, in 1848, he left the parental roof and started out to make his own way in the world. He bade good-bye to his home and came direct to Illinois, locating at Marshall, where he served a three years' apprenticeship at the trade of a wagon-maker, but never followed that occupation for a

livelihood. Soon after his term of service had expired he returned to his native State, and in 1856, entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, which he attended for four years. He then followed the profession of school teaching until 1862, when he could no longer withstand his country's call for aid, and offered his services to the Government. He was assigned to Company G, of the 86th Illinois Infantry, as First Lieutenant, and participated in the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain. The army then went into winter quarters at Chattanooga, and the following year with his regiment he was in the Atlanta campaign, and various other engagements, and was with Sherman during the celebrated march to the sea. At the battle of Bentonville, N. C., he was wounded and sent home, but rejoined his regiment at Washington, D. C., and served until the close of the war. He was mustered out with the rank of Captain. At various intervals of his service in the army as Lieutenant he served his regiment as Adjutant.

On the close of hostilities, Mr. Zinser was honorably discharged and at once returned to his home in Washington, Ill. The following year, in 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Grady, who was born in this county, and is a daughter of R. R. Grady, an early settler of Eureka. Five children grace their union—Percy M., Eloise, Homer, Clarence and Raymond, all of whom are yet living.

On his return from the South at the close of the war, Mr. Zinser formed a partnership with George C. Yale, in the drug business, which connection continued until 1870, when in consequence of ill health, he was forced to retire and engage in some other pursuit. He then obtained a position in the United States mail service as route agent, in which capacity he served six years, when he opened a drug store in the village of Benson. At the end of eight months, however, he removed to Minonk, where he has since been engaged in business, and has built up a large and flourishing trade. He ranks among the best citizens in this community, is enterprising and progressive, and manifests a deep interest in public affairs. In politics, he is an ardent advocate of Republican principles, and has been honored with several local offices. He served as Justice of the Peace in Washington, and since coming to Minonk he has held the offices of Collector and President of the Board of Education. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R. post, and of the A. F. & A. M. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is well known throughout the county, and he and his family hold a high position in the social world.

BENNETT SHAFER was one of the earliest settlers of Washburn, where he is now living retired on his farm adjoining the village. As a pioneer of the place he has been instrumental in its upbuilding, and he has witnessed with pride its growth and development from a tract of wild prairie to a pleasant and flourishing town. He was born in Westphalia, Germany, Dec. 22, 1817. His father, John Shafer, was born in Germany, and spent his entire life there.

The subject of this sketch and his brother, Anton, were the only members of the family who ever came to America. The latter is now residing in Linn Township. The subject of this sketch attended the excellent schools of his native land from the age of six till he was fourteen years old, and was then employed on a farm till 1844, when he became coachman in a gentleman's family, occupying that position till 1846, when he emigrated to the United States. He set sail from Bremen, March 6, and landed at New York after a voyage of forty-seven days. He first found employment after his arrival in that city, in a store on Hanover street, where he remained two years. He then went to Boston, where he secured a position as foreman in a sugar refinery. In 1856 he threw up that position, and came West to build up a home for himself. He purchased 100 acres of land in Cazenovia Township, near the present site of Washburn. At that time there was but one building where Washburn now stands, a solitary log house, which was burned soon after. He has witnessed the entire growth and development of the village. There was a small frame house on the land

that he bought, but it being in a poor condition he was soon obliged to build another. He was a resident of that place a good many years, and then purchased the farm adjoining which he now occupies. He owns 176 acres of finely improved land, which is under careful cultivation, and has three sets of frame buildings. He rents his land, and lives in retirement on the good income that he thus secures. When he came here Lacon was his nearest railroad point, and continued so for many years, and deer and other kinds of wild game were plenty.

Mr. Shafer was married in Boston,to Miss Frances Shafer. She was also a native of Westphalia. The death of that estimable woman occurred June 30, 1884. There were eight children born of that marriage—William, Eddie, Mary, Caroline and Elizabeth being the only survivors. Mr. Shafer is a member of the St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, of which he has been a Trustee many years. Our subject has not only contributed liberally to the support of this church, of which he is a devoted member, but he has given generously to aid in the upbuilding of every other church in the village, thus showing the deep interest he takes in its well being, and endearing himself to the hearts of the community. In his political sentiments he is a sturdy adherent of the Democrat party.

GEORGE W. WEBER, the oldest druggist, in years of service, of Minonk, Ill., established business Oct. 6, 1873. He was born in St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 28, 1848, and is the son of Peter S. and Elizabeth C. (Kern) Weber, the former a native of Virginia, the latter of Pennsylvania. The Weber family is of Holland extraction, and the ancestry can be traced back in direct line to Wolfort Weber, who emigrated to America in the year 1640, locating at New Amsterdam, which was the beginning of New York City. He did not, however, become a permanent resident of this country, and other members of the family also made trips between the two countries, some remaining while others returned to Holland. Wolfort Weber obtained a tract of land from the Holland Government, known as the Harlem grant, and afterward purchased fifty-seven acres which is now within the city limits of New York. The genealogical table of the family is as follows:

Wolfort Weber married Aneke Case, in Holland, in 1641, and Dec. 18, 1645, there was born unto them a son, whom they named Arnout. He married Arintzie Arens, Aug. 25, 1669, and on the 24th of November, 1670, their son, Wolfort, was born. He married Gratzie Jacobs, Oct. 29, 1697, and a son born to them May 22, 1698, was called Arnout. Arnout Weber married Sarah Ronieer, Oct. 9, 1733, and their son, John B., born June 14, 1749, is the next in direct descent. He wedded Hannah Webster, June 8, 1769, and on the 19th of October, 1772, was born unto them a son, John Baltzer. The last named married Elizabeth Sehult, in 1805, and they had six sons—William, George Richard, John Baltzer, Philip W., Jacob Shutt, and Peter Stroble. Peter S. was born Jan. 31, 1817, and was three times married, his first union, which was celebrated March 11, 1837, being with Lavina Eliza Adams, by whom he had one son, who died in infancy. On the 7th of June, 1842, Sarah Brown Elliott became his wife, and their only son also died in infancy. He was the third time married, June 24, 1845, the lady of his choice being Elizabeth Catherine Kern, who became the mother of four children, three of whom died in infancy, George William, the subject of this sketch, being the only survivor.

The mother was born at Ligonier, Westmoreland Co., Pa., March 31, 1827, and when ten years of age, in 1837, came with her parents to Woodford County, Ill., the family locating in Worth Township. Peter Weber, when a young man, left his Eastern home, emigrated to Illinois, and also settled in the same county. The young people here became acquainted, and on the 24th of June, 1845, in Woodford County, were united in marriage. Some time later, they removed to St. Louis, Mo., where he worked at his trade as wood cutter and machinist until about the year 1851, when he became a resident of New Orleans, where, on the 25th of August, 1853, he died of yellow fever. His

wife survived him many years, and after the death of her husband, returned to this county, and made her home with her father near Metamora, until his death March 16, 1883. She then removed to Minonk, and resided with her son, George W., until called to her final rest Jan. 28, 1888. She was an earnest Christian woman, and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

The subject of this sketch was but four years old when his father's death occurred. He then made his home with his mother and grandparents in Metamora Township, until starting out in life for himself. His educational advantages were those afforded by the common schools of the neighborhood, and at seventeen years of age, he began life's battle. Going to Southwestern Missouri, he was for some time engaged in clerking in a store, but at length returned to Illinois. The following winter he attended school at Minonk, and during the summer worked at any employment which he could find to do, whereby he might earn an honest dollar. The next winter was spent in teaching school in Mason County, after which he taught in this county, and subsequently engaged in clerking in Minonk. In the fall of 1873, he embarked in his present business, in which he has been very successful. From the beginning his trade has constantly increased, and he now receives a liberal patronage.

In the month of January, 1873, Mr. Weber led to the marriage altar Miss Lucy A. Bailey, who was born in Boston, Mass. The family is descended from Samuel Bailey, who was born in Rhode Island, Nov. 27, 1742, of Scotch ancestry, and on the 3d of January, 1772, married Roby Webb; they became parents of eleven children, one of whom, Ira Bailey, was the grandfather of Mrs. Weber. He was born March 24, 1798, and wedded Martha Houghton, by whom he had nine children. Of that family, Cyril O. Bailey was born April 8, 1824, and Oct. 30, 1847, was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary A. Phillips. Their union was blessed with five children: Byron W., Lucy Ann Emeline; Ambrose P., Mary A., and an infant daughter, are deceased. Mr. Bailey was a blacksmith and also gunsmith.

Mrs. Weber was born May 5, 1852, and with her family came to this county, where she was married. Four children have been born of the union—Alma, Romain C., and Elsie, and one the eldest, who died in childhood, named Newell B.

Mr. Weber is numbered among the leading business men of Minonk, and is also one of its prominent and influential citizens. In political sentiment, he is a Republican. For three years, he served as Township Clerk, and is now serving his third term as a member of the Board of Education. Socially, he is a member of Robert Morris Lodge No. 247, A. F. & A. M., in which he has filled all the offices with the exception of that of Master. In connection with his store, he owns a nice residence in Minonk, and his wife also is owner of some valuable property. This worthy couple have a large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the community, and are greatly esteemed by all who know them. Their home is noted for its hospitality, and its inmates hold a high position in the social world.

JOHN JURY, one of the pioneers of 1850, is now a prosperous farmer residing on section 9, Minonk Township. He was born in Devonshire, England, February, 1836, being a son of John and T. (Matters) Jury, who were also natives of Devonshire, England. In 1850 the family came to the United States and settled near Metamora, Woodford County. They were poor but they worked diligently and managed wisely and were soon in a more prosperous condition. The father rented land shortly after coming here and was operating it with good success until in July, 1853, when he was suddenly stricken dead while cutting grain in the field. He had always previously enjoyed good health. The family thus left to struggle on by themselves consisted of the widow and five children, viz.: Margaret, who is now Mrs. Robert Thompson of Livingston County, Ill.; John; Jane, now Mrs. Judson Cutler, of Kansas; Peter residing in Allen County, Kan.; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Albion Ramsey, of Allen County, Kan.; Emanuel died in childhood. The mother of our subject was again

united in marriage, taking for her second husband Daniel Hallenbaek. He died at Minonk, a short time after marriage, and she subsequently removed to Kansas, where she died at the residence of her daughter in 1888.

Our subject was fourteen years old when the family moved to the United States. He at once sought employment which he found as a farm hand at $6 per month, the father receiving only $12 per month. He worked in this capacity for some time and assisted with his meager wages in supporting the family. In 1854 his mother purchased eighty acres of government land, paying $2.50 per acre. This was located in Minonk Township on section 1. To this place the family then moved and commenced improving, building as far as possible for permanence and comfort. Our subject also rented some land, but resided with the family until December, 1860. In that year he married a lady of the neighborhood and settled on section 12, where he purchased eighty acres of railroad land, paying $16 per acre, which seemed a large amount at that time, when corn was but ten cents a bushel. He resided on said farm and made many improvements bringing the land under a fine state of cultivation, until 1867, when finding a location that pleased him better he removed, buying land which became the nucleus of his present place. He now has a fine large estate of 365 acres of excellent land in Minonk Township. This was bought at various times and cost him different prices ranging from $16 to $70 per acre. He also owns 160 acres of land in Jefferson County, Neb.

Mrs. Jury is an amiable, intelligent lady and a good housewife, looking well to the ways of her household. She is a daughter of Joseph H. Brown, of Minonk, and is a native of Marshall County, Ill. To our subject and his wife have been born three children, Genevieve, wife of Andrew M. Strawhacker, of Marshall County, Ill.; Welby, of Minonk and Adelbert Lee, who is at home.

Politically our subject is a Republican but takes very little active part in the management of party affairs. He has never sought or desired an office, but has yielded to the solicitation of his friends and served his district as School Director. Mr. and Mrs. Jury are both believers in the Christian religion and active and efficient helpers in all good works. Mrs. Jury finds a religious home within the fold of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where her blameless life and abundant charity make her a valued member.

AARON B. MASON is successfully conducting the mercantile business in Washburn, where he has a neat, well-appointed store, and carries a fine and well-selected assortment of dry-goods, notions, etc. He is a native of Indiana, born in the town of Middleton, Shelby County, Sept. 13, 1840, a son of John and Sarah (Parker) Mason, natives of Philadelphia, Pa. His father was reared in the city of his nativity, and early learned the trade of tobacconist, which he followed there till 1836. In that year he removed to Indiana, and locating in Shelby County, among its pioneers, established himself as a tobacconist in the town of Middletown. He bought property there and was engaged in business in that place for several years, but finally retired and spent the remainder of his days free from business cares, and in the enjoyment of a comfortable income. He died in 1880, and in his death his community lost a public-spirited, upright citizen. His good wife also died in Middletown. There were thirteen children in their family, of whom eleven grew to maturity.

He of whom we write spent his early life in his native town, gaining the preliminaries of a sound education in the local schools, and subsquently advancing by attendance at the excellent city schools of Indianapolis. He commenced life for himself as a clerk in an auction and commission store in that city, and during the three years that he held that position he gained an accurate knowledge of the mercantile business, and by intelligent and efficient service won the commendation of those above him. In 1877 he resolved to come West to see what life held for him in the Prairie State. He established himself in Peoria, as a house and sign

painter, and was thus occupied there seven years. At the expiration of that time he came to Washburn, and followed the same trade the ensuing two years. He then entered into the mercantile business which he has carried on ever since with great financial success. In the few years since he opened his store, he has built up a paying trade by strictly honorable methods, and his prompt attention to the wants of his customers, his genial and obliging manner render him popular with all who have dealings with him. Mr. Mason was married in 1869 to Miss Sarah Hudson, a native of Richmond, Ind., and a daughter of Robert and Eunice (Reed) Hudson. Her parents were Quakers, and were pioneers of Richmond. Mrs. Mason has the requisite tact and ability to make her home attractive to its inmates, and to whomsoever else crosses its threshold, it being the seat of genuine hospitality.

Mr. Mason is a gentleman of true culture, and, possessing much literary talent, he is a correspondent for various papers, and a regular weekly contributor to the Lacon *Home Journal*. His articles are well and carefully written, giving evidence of a bright and thoughtful mind, and are quite widely read. A firm Republican in his political views, Mr. Mason is a devoted adherent to his party. In his wife, the Christian Church finds one of its most influential members.

CHARLES MOLITOR. During the early part of the present century, Europe was in a fever of discontentment and political excitement, and amid the tottering of kingdoms the immortal Napoleon marched forward in his conquests, climbing the Alps to the victory beyond. Before his pathway was fear, and behind him he left devastation and ruin. The termination of this glory we all know. The battle of Waterloo put an end to the ambitions of Napoleon, and left him alone in defeat, as he had never been in conquest. The little province of Alsace was in no small degree affected by the wars and the rumors of wars. It nestled among the mountains of northeastern France, and has often been a bone of contention between neighboring kingdoms. Among the inhabitants of Alsace few watched the march of events with greater interest than Charles A. and Verbena (Conrad) Molitor, with their little group of children. Three childish forms at this period clustered around the hearth, and for their sakes especially the parents rejoiced to have the fierce and bloody war brought to a speedy termination. These children were named: Charlotte, Verbena and Charles. The latter was born Sept. 29, 1809, and was thus a lad of six years, when the defeat of Waterloo occurred.

Charles A. Molitor, the father of our subject, was a native of Bavaria, but none of his children remained in the Fatherland. Verbena died at an early age, while Charlotte married John Trom, a native of France, but now a resident of Canada, to which country he and his wife emigrated in 1834. Their home is beautifully situated in the picturesque district near Niagara Falls.

The only son of Charles A. Molitor is now an honored resident of this county, and rests quietly in his pleasant home after a long and adventurous life. He has made his home in many countries, and has lived under many flags. In 1824 he left his childhood home, and sojourned for a time in Russia.

But the cold, uncongenial climate, and barren, unproductive soil, were not suited to his tastes, nor was the political condition of Russia all that he could wish. He set sail from the port of Havre de Grace, France, in 1835, and after a tempestuous voyage of thirty-five days landed in New York City. For one year he was employed in that city at his trade as a cabinet-maker. While a resident of that city he increased his responsibilities, and also his share of happiness, by uniting his interests and cares with those of Miss Mary Burky, a native of Bavaria, to whom he was married May 1, 1836. Her parents left their old home, and located in America, the same year that witnessed the departure of her future husband. Her father had been a farmer in the old country, but engaged in keeping a boarding-house in New York City.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Molitor became attracted by stories of the West, and accordingly

in 1837, changed their abode to Tazewell County, Ill., where they purchased a farm of eighty acres. This was in a wild, uncultivated state, but he improved it until he had it all in good condition, when he sold it, and bought a farm of 136 acres with a small house. Here he made his home and here his wife passed away in 1844.

Of the eight children of Mr. and Mrs. Molitor, one alone survives, Catarina, who married Charles Wineland, of Kankakee, Ill. He is engaged as a contractor, and has established an enviable reputation in his occupation. They are the parents of eight children.

A second matrimonial alliance was formed by Mr Molitor in 1844, when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Phillips, a native of Tazewell County, Ill. She is of French descent, her parents having been residents of Loudray, France. Of the eleven children born of this union, six arrived at the years of maturity, as follows: Charles P., Joseph, Frank, George L. Benjamin S., and Rupert D. The eldest, Charles P. married Miss Hagaman, of Tazewell County, and he is employed as a railroad engineer in Chicago, where they make their home. The record of their children is as follows: George, Mary, Emma, and Frank. The second son, Joseph, married Miss Ragley, by whom he has two children—Robert and Edward. After the death of this wife he again married, the name of his second wife being Miss Tracie Hummel, a native of Germany, by whom he has three children. He is occupied as a farmer in this county. George L. married Eve Geiger, a native of this county, and they reside in Metamora, with their three children—Douglas, Henry and George L. The occupation of the father is that of a farmer, in which he is very successful. Benjamin S. married Miss Camp, whose birthplace was in Tazewell County, and they are the parents of two children—Wilsie and Benjamin L. Their home is in Washington Village, where the husband and father has been engaged for many years as a farmer. Frank is in the employ of a railroad company in Chicago.

Mr. Molitor is justly proud of his war record, and as a slight compensation for injuries received in the service he now draws a pension. He enlisted in the 14th Illinois Cavalry, under Col. Cabron; was engaged in the conflict at Salina, Tenn. and then at Castle Creek. In the latter battle he was wounded in the head. He was taken prisoner at Scottsville, Tenn., but was fortunate enough to get exchanged shortly after. He received an honorable discharge at Indianapolis, in 1865.

After the close of the war, Mr. Molitor returned to his home, and commenced farming operations. He now owns a farm with a fine residence, and the land is in a good state of cultivation. He and his wife and family are members in good standing of the Catholic Church. Politically, our subject is a stanch Republican, and has held the office of the Justice of the Peace for the period of forty years.

JAMES PIPER, a resident of Cazenovia Township, has been a prominent factor in the religious, social, political, and material development of Woodford County, where he has lived for so many years. He is connected with its farming interests, having improved a farm from the wild prairies on which he has made his home for a period of thirty-six years. He was born in Cumberland County, Pa., Nov. 1, 1824. His father, Capt. James Piper, was born on the same farm, and his father, John Piper, was born either in Scotland or the North of Ireland. His father, Samuel Piper, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a native of Scotland, and emigrated to the North of Ireland, where he spent his last years. The grandfather of our subject was reared in Ireland, and soon after marriage came to America, and settled in Cumberland County, Pa., where he purchased a tract of land on the stream known as the Big Spring. There was an unimproved water-power on the place, which he utilized, damming the stream, and building the first mill ever erected in that part of the country. While operating the mill he superintended the improvement of a farm, and was a resident there until his death. The father of the subject of this sketch fell heir to his father's property, and spent his entire life in the home of his

birth, dying Jan. 1, 1846. He served his country in the War of 1812, having a captain's commission. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Catherine Irvin. She was born in Cumberland County, Pa., while her father, Samuel Irvin, was a native of Chester County, Pa. John Irvin, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Scotland, and on coming to America, located in Pennsylvania, and spent his last years in Cumberland County. The grandfather of the subject of this sketch, erected the second mill ever built on the Big Spring. He devoted his time to farming and milling, and passed his last years in Cumberland County. The mother of the subject of this sketch died on the homestead June 7, 1844. There were six children born to the parents of our subject: Mary married John S. Dunlap, and lives in Pennsylvania: Jane died at the home of our subject in 1885; John died in Lacon, in 1889; Samuel lives in Cumberland County, Pa.; Elizabeth married G. V. Mallorey, and died in 1876.

He of whom we write, was reared and educated in his native county, and in 1847, in the prime and vigor of early manhood, he started on an exploring expedition to Illinois, wishing to gain a good knowledge of the country, and to try life on the broad prairies of the West. He proceeded by stage to Mansfield, Ohio, and thence by rail to Sandusky, where he embarked on a steamer for Milwaukee, and from that city he walked to Galena, Ill. He made a short stay there, and then made his way to Albany, Whiteside County, where he remained two months. After that he went to Marshall County, and there turned his education to account by commencing a term of school in February, 1848, in the Round Prairie school house, five miles southeast of Lacon. He taught there until June with excellent success, and then after working on a farm until fall, returned to Pennsylvania. He remained in his native State until 1850, when he once again came West, traveling by the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to St. Paul, Minn., then a small village, and on the spot where Minneapolis now stands, there were but a few small houses. He staid there ten days, but liking what he had seen of Illinois, better, he came here, and sought employment in Woodford County, and until the following spring of 1851 worked by the day or month at whatsoever his hands found to do. With good judgment and foresight, he invested his hard earnings in 160 acres of land, forming the northeast quarter of section 26, Cazenovia Township. It was wild prairie land, but by the quiet force of persistent and wisely directed labor, in the years that followed he reclaimed it from its wild state, improving it into one of the most desirable farms in this locality, and has since made his home on it, having erected substantial buildings in the spring of 1853. He has been enabled to add more land to his original purchase, and now has 240 acres of choice farming land, provided with a commodious dwelling, a neat barn, and other necessary outbuildings. He has a fine orchard, and has otherwise adorned his place by planting hedges, and beautiful shade trees.

Mr. Piper has been twice married. To the wife of his earlier years, Miss Elizabeth Dodds, he was wedded in February, 1851. She was a native of Montgomery County, Ohio, and the oldest daughter of William and Priscilla Dodds. (For her parental history see sketch of John E. Dodds on another page of this ALBUM.) Aug. 7, 1872, Mrs. Piper was taken from her family by her untimely demise. There were six children born of that marriage, namely: William I., James E., Robert D., Mary E., Joseph L., and Clara May. The latter died when four years old.

Mr. Piper was married to his present wife in October, 1873, and to them have come two children, John G., and Charles A. Mrs. Piper's maiden name was Priscilla Gracey, and Cumberland County, Pa., was her native place. Her parents, Col. William and Sarah A. Gracey, were also born in that county. Her father is a man of considerable prominence in his community, and is an officer in the State militia, holding a commission in the 44th Pennsylvania Regiment, P. N. G.

During his many years residence here, Mr. Piper's course in life has been such as to win the regard and respect of all who have come under the genial influence of his guileless, manly character, his pleasant, helpful ways, and his unswerving adherence to the right. He has filled an important place in the government of the county and town-

ship, and his fellow-officials have found him to be an able and wise counselor. He represented Cazenovia Township on the County Board of Supervisors several terms, and from 1868 to 1872, was a member of the State Board of Equalization. He has filled various local offices, served as School Director ten years, and as Trustee twelve years. His patriotism and loyalty to his country were abundantly proved during the late war, when he joined a company of home guards, receiving a commission from Gov. Yates, as captain. In politics, he is a faithful supporter of the Republican party. In him and his estimable wife, the United Presbyterian Church finds two of its most consistent and valued members.

JAMES FORSYTH. To Illinois have emigrated the best elements of nearly all nations, and in the early days the English emigrant was not slow to take advantage of the promise held out in her rich soil awaiting development from the hand of the husbandman. Mr. Forsyth, a native of Cumberland County, England, came to Panola Township, in the early days, contributed his full quota toward its growth and development, and is now numbered among her leading farmers and stock-raisers. He selected land on section 11, where we now find him in the enjoyment of a well-cultivated farm, and all the comforts and conveniences of modern rural life.

Our subject was born June 14, 1833, and is the son of James and Margaret (Kerr) Forsyth, who were natives of Scotland, but settled in England prior to the birth of their son, James, Jr. The latter was deprived by death of the affectionate care of his mother when in the fourth year of his age. He was the youngest son, and was given a good education. He took kindly to his books, and since leaving school, has, by a course of reading, kept himself posted upon the general topics of the day. He served an apprenticeship at farming in his native county, and lived there until a young man of twenty-four years. In the meantime he had been receiving information of the encouragement held out to the young men in the great West of the United States, and now determined to emigrate thither.

In 1857, Mr. Forsyth repaired to Liverpool, and embarked on a sailing vessel, which, after a voyage of thirty-seven days, landed him safely in New York City. Thence he came directly to Illinois, and for about two years thereafter worked in the coal mines of La Salle County. In 1859 he changed his residence to Woodford County, of which he has since been one of the most valued citizens. His first purchase of land was eighty acres of raw prairie, which remained in the condition which the Indians had left it, and over which deer, wolves and other wild animals had heretofore roamed unrestrained. He began at first principles in the construction of a farm, breaking the prairie, building fences, planting trees, and while raising each year his grain and provisions, effected improvements as rapidly as possible. He is now the owner of a quarter section, all of which he has brought to a good state of cultivation, and which, in fact, is admitted to be one of the best farms in the township.

In 1856, the year prior to leaving England, our subject was married to Miss Jane Watson, a native of his own county, and who died after becoming the mother of one child, a daughter, whom they named Mary. Our subject contracted a second marriage, 1876, in this township, with Mrs. Sarah Taylor. This lady was born in Lancashire, April 4, 1838, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Morris, who were likewise of English birth and parentage, and who emigrated to the United States when their daughter Elizabeth was a child of three years. Coming to Illinois, they settled in Peoria County, of which they were among the pioneers, and there they spent their last days. Neither, however, lived to be aged, the father dying Aug. 10, 1847, and the mother Aug. 13, 1850. They were the parents of nine children, only three of whom are living, viz: Elizabeth, the wife of O. B. Greene, of Peoria County; Sarah, Mrs. Forsyth, and James T., in Peoria County.

The present Mrs. Forsyth was first married in Peoria County, Ill., June 2, 1856, to Samuel Taylor, a native of Lancashire England, and by whom

she became the mother of four children. The eldest, Ella R., is now the wife of Samuel A. Ennefer, of Hancock County, Ill.; Frank M., and Oswald B. are living at home; Lizzie J. is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor located in Panola Township, this county, in 1865. Mr. Taylor taking up land on section 2, he engaged in its improvement and cultivation until the illness which resulted in his death, March 7, 1872. Mrs. Forsyth has in her own right a farm of 160 acres. She was the second wife of Mr. Taylor, who, by his first marriage was the father of one son, John C., who is now in Peoria.

Mr. Forsyth, politically, is a sound Republican, and has served two terms as Road Commissioner. In the spring of 1888, he was elected to represent Panola Township, in the County Board of Supervisors. He may properly be numbered among the self-made men of Woodford County, and has contributed his full quota to her progress and development.

WILLIAM S. BULLOCK. The difference in men is keenly recognized as the biographer goes from place to place and meets all kinds of individuals. He finds some living for self alone, regardless of the rights or happiness of others, and others intent upon getting gain. Here and there is a man who, unlike the others, entertains a conviction that he was born to be of some use in the world and endeavors, as far as in him lies, to fulfill his manifest destiny. The subject of this notice is one of those, living with a purpose in view which shall reflect honor upon his name when he can labor no longer. He is generally regarded as a quiet and unostentatious citizen, but he carries with him an influence which will be felt after he has been gathered to his fathers. His life perhaps has been passed in a comparatively uneventful manner, a life which for many years has been strengthened in its best purposes by the assistance and influence of his amiable and excellent wife. Mrs. Bullock is one of the most estimable ladies of her community, and has proven herself well fitted for the position she occupies, as the presiding genius of a good man's home and the mother of a family of intelligent children.

Mr. Bullock is a farmer by occupation, and besides owning a thoroughly cultivated farm of 160 acres, has in partnership with his sons, an interest in 450 acres. The homestead occupies a portion of section 23 in Olio Township, and has been the property of our subject since 1863. He has effected most of the improvements upon it, and to assist him in his labors employs modern machinery of an improved pattern, and keeps himself well posted in regard to the best methods of agriculture. Without making any pretentions to elegance, his buildings are neat and substantial and kept in good repair, while he has gathered about himself and family all those comforts and conveniences which have so much effect upon the happiness of a homestead.

Our subject was born in Woodford County, Ky., May 12, 1827, and was the eldest son and second child of Thomas and Agnes (Ware) Bullock, the former a native of Woodford County, and the latter of Franklin County, Ky. Thomas Bullock lived near the place of his birth until after his marriage. Then he changed his residence to Owen County, and from there, in 1835, emigrated to Woodford County, Ill., settling one mile southwest of the present site of Eureka; no signs of a town were visible at that time. There he built up a homestead from an uncultivated tract of land, where he lived until the death of the mother, which occurred Feb. 16, 1882. After her death, the father of our subject came to live with the latter, and departed this life Feb. 18, 1887.

Thomas Bullock was a man of note in his community, liberal, public-spirited, and warmly interested in the progress and development of his adopted county. He was instrumental in having it named after his native county in Kentucky, and himself presented it to the consideration of the State Legislature. He opened up a farm, and besides carrying on agriculture, dealt considerably in live-stock. Seven of his children survive him.

The subject of this notice was eight years old when his parents removed to Woodford County, this State, and here he grew to manhood in Olio

Township. He remained a member of the parental household until reaching his majority, and remembers many of the incidents connected with pioneer life. He assisted in building the first mill erected in Eureka, and was employed in it for a short time. It was owned and operated by John Major & Co. Aside from this diversion, he has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits. When approaching the twenty-fifth year of his age he was married, Oct. 14, 1852, to Miss Mary A. Mitchell. This lady was born in Indiana, and came with her parents to this county in 1833. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children: Clara, the eldest, is the wife of Thomas Spencer, and lives in Buffalo County, Neb.; Harvey W. married a Miss Ayres, and lives in Woodford County; John M. married a Miss Blanchard, and they live in Woodford County.

In his political views Mr. Bullock affiliates with the Democratic party. He has held some of the minor offices, but prefers that other men should assume their cares and responsibilities. Both he and his good wife are members of the Christian Church, and their children have been given a good practical education. The family represents the best element of the community.

PORTER S. BASSETT came to Illinois in 1855, identifying himself with the pioneer farmers of Woodford County in the following spring, and has been so fortunate in his enterprise that he is now numbered among the prominent and well-to-do agriculturists and stock-raisers of this part of the State. His farm is on section 32, of Panola Township, and is in every way one of the most desirable of the productive farms of this locality.

Our subject is a native of Cheuango County, N. Y., born Jan. 11, 1828, to Urian and Submit (Chapin) Bassett. His father was a native of Vermont, while his mother was of New York birth, her father being a native of Connecticut. The Bassetts are said to have emigrated to Vermont at an early day and to have been among its first settlers. Porter Bassett of this sketch, was the oldest child of his father's family, and was bred to the life of a farmer in his native State. He received a limited common-school education, which he has improved by extensive reading and by observation, he having a quick, receptive mind. In taking that important step in life, his marriage Aug. 15, 1851, to Miss Malvina L. French, he was so fortunate as to secure a good wife, one who has been both a companion and a helpmate. She is, like himself, a native of New York, and of New England antecedents, her parents, James A. and Cynthia French, having been born in that part of the country. Two children have been born to our subject and his wife, namely: Florence, wife of P. M. Evans, of Panola Village; Addie, wife of J. C. Schofield, of Panola Township. In 1855 Mr. and Mrs. Bassett left their native State for the purpose of building up a new home under more favorable auspices in the West, and coming to Illinois in the fall of that year, they spent the ensuing winter in LaSalle County. In the spring of 1855 they took up their abode in Woodford County, Mr. Bassett buying a tract of wild land of the railway company in Greene Township. He broke and placed under cultivation the whole eighty acres, and made many fair improvements during the ten years that he and his family lived on it. At the expiration of that time he disposed of it, and moved onto his present farm, which at that time comprised 115 acres, of which about one-half had been broken, and a small house stood on the place. In the years that have passed since then, Mr. Bassett has wrought a great change by the quiet force of persistent labor. There was much pioneer labor to be performed, and many hardships to endure before this could be brought about. But happily Mr. Bassett was not easily discouraged, and having a strong will, good powers of endurance, and a clear mind in a healthy body, has accomplished a great deal, with the aid of a helpful wife, where others might have failed, and his farm, which now comprises 225 acres, is under admirable tillage, is provided with ample buildings, and everything about the place is in excellent order. When the Bassetts first came to the county it was still in quite a wild condition. Many of its first

settlers were still living here and had not completed their work. The few farms that had been developed lacked the many comfortable improvements that distinguish the numerous fine farms of to day. Civilization was not so far advanced, but that deer, wolves and other wild animals were still pleuty and often troublesome, though the flesh of the deer and other wild game furnished the pioneers with delicious food.

Mr. and Mrs. Bassett are regarded with feelings of affection and respect by the people of this community, where they have made their home so many years, and their neighbors have always found them kind hearted, charitable, friendly, and hospitable, always ready and glad to give assistanee where it was needed, and never failing to extend sympathy to those in trouble or sorrow. Mr. Bassett is worthily fulfilling the duties of citizenship, and has served his township faithfully as Assessor and Road Commissioner for several years. He is a member of the Grange Lodge at El Paso, and politically, is identified with the Democratic party.

GEORGE MOSCHEL is one of the most progressive and enterprising of the native-born young men of Woodford County, who within the last decade have stepped to the front to take up the work so well begun by their pioneer sires, and are pushing forward the great commercial and agricultural interests of the county, and are prominent factors in the promotion of its financial prosperity. He is member of the firm of Moschel & Tweddale, grocers, who are conducting the grocery business in Washburn. Although so young, our subject is already prominently identified with the public life of his native county, as a member of the County Board of Supervisors.

Our subject was born in Cazenovia Township, Dec. 1, 1862. His father, John Mosehel, was born in Bavaria, Germany, and his father bearing the same name, was a native of the same place. The grandfather of our subject and his two brothers, Nicholas and Christian came to America and all reared families. The grandfather of our subject eame about 1853, and first lived below Peoria. He had always followed agricultural pursuits, but after coming to the United States, he did not engage in any active business. His last years were passed quietly in Cazenovia Township. His children were as follows: John, Christian, Philip, Susanna, Sophia and Phebe.

The father of the subjeet of this sketeh was reared and married in his native land, and lived there till about 1852, then he came to the United States, residing for a short time in Peoria. After that he removed to a farm below that city, on which he lived till 1859, and in that year he came to Cazenovia Township. There he purchased a farm, located on sections 2 and 3, erected a good set of frame buildings, and made his home there till death claimed him. During that time he had purchased desirable property in Washburn, and had erected a fine house, in whieh he intended to spend his declining years, but was taken sick and died just as it was ready for occupancy. He was a well-educated man, possessing a good fund of general information, and was a conspicuous figure in the public and political life of Woodford County, and was a member of the County Board at the time of his death, having filled various other offices of trust. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Sandmeyer, a native of the same place as himself. There are three of their children living: Mary, wife of Henry Lesch, of Washburn; John, who lives on the home farm, and the subject of this sketch.

The latter received a substantial education in the village schools, and afforded his father valuable assistance on the farm till the month of October, 1885. At that time he formed a partnership with J. R. Tweddale, to engage in the groeery bnsiness, which they have carried on together with excellent suecess ever since. They have a fine store, replete in all its appointments, and earry, besides groceries, jewelry, of which they have a well- selected stock.

A bright, active young man, with a well-balanced mind, and an exceptional talent for business, our subject has early been called to take his part in the administration of the government of his

native county. The people among whom he has grown to manhood regarding him as eminently worthy of their suffrage, elected him to the Supervisorship to succeed himself, he having been appointed to fill the unexpired term of his father at the time of the latter's death, and his course in that position was so satisfactory, that at the expiration of that term in 1889, he was re-elected to represent the interest of Cazenovia Township a second term. Politically he is an ardent follower of the Democratic party. Religiously, he believes in the tenets of the Reformed Church, and is one of its most useful members.

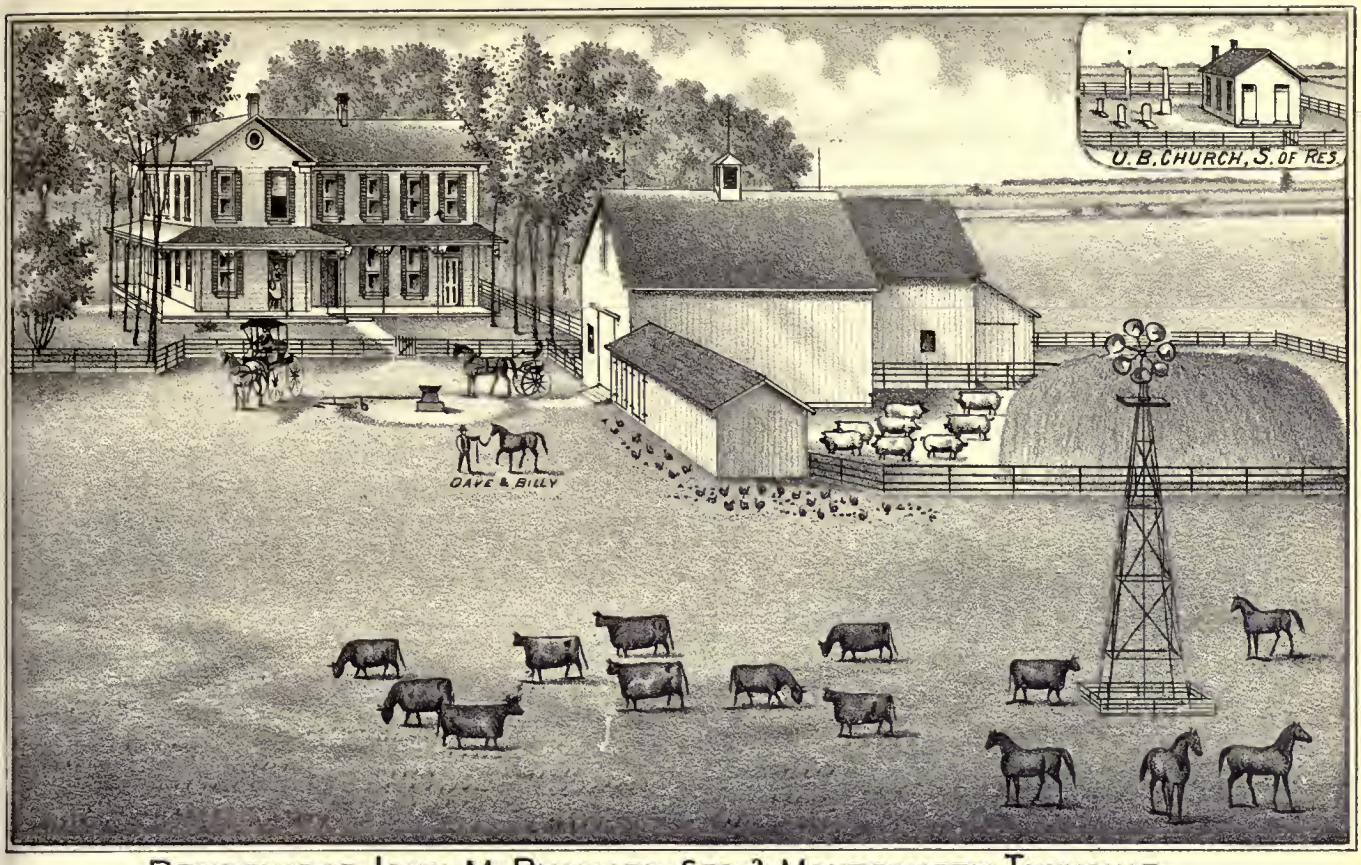
JOHN M. PHILLIPS, the present efficient Supervisor of Montgomery Township, is numbered among the prominent and progressive farmers of this county, where he has made his home since 1865. He now owns and operates a fine farm of 226 acres situated on section 3, which he purchased in 1866. Almost the entire amount is in a high state of cultivation, and the surronndings indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner, whose efforts have been very successful. He is numbered among the prosperous farmers of the community, where he has so long been favorably known.

Mr. Phillips is a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, born Feb. 22, 1829. His parents were William and Priscilla (White) Phillips, the former a native of Loudoun County, Va., the latter of Philadelphia, Pa. For several generations past, the Phillips family have been residents of the Old Dominion, where William was reared to manhood. He then emigrated to the Buckeye State, locating in Guernsey County, where he became acquainted with, and married Miss White. They began their domestic life on a rented farm in that county, but later purchased land, and in the home thus made Mrs. Phillips resided until her death, which occurred Aug. 15, 1851, at the age of forty-six years. She was a member of the Baptist Church, and was beloved by all who knew her for her many excellent traits of head and heart. After the loss of his loved companion, Mr. Phillips came to the West, locating in Topeka, Kan., where he resided in the home of his son, W. W., until called from the busy scenes of this life. His death occurred Aug. 15, 1881, at the age of eighty-three years, just thirty years after his wife crossed the dark river. He was a man of high moral character, and though he never united with any religious organization, his upright life commanded the respect and confidence of all. He scorned to do a wrong or inflict an injury, but in a quiet and unostentatious manner performed many acts of kindness, which will long be remembered. In early life he cast his ballot with the Whig party, but at the formation of the Republican party joined its ranks, and continued to fight under its banner until death.

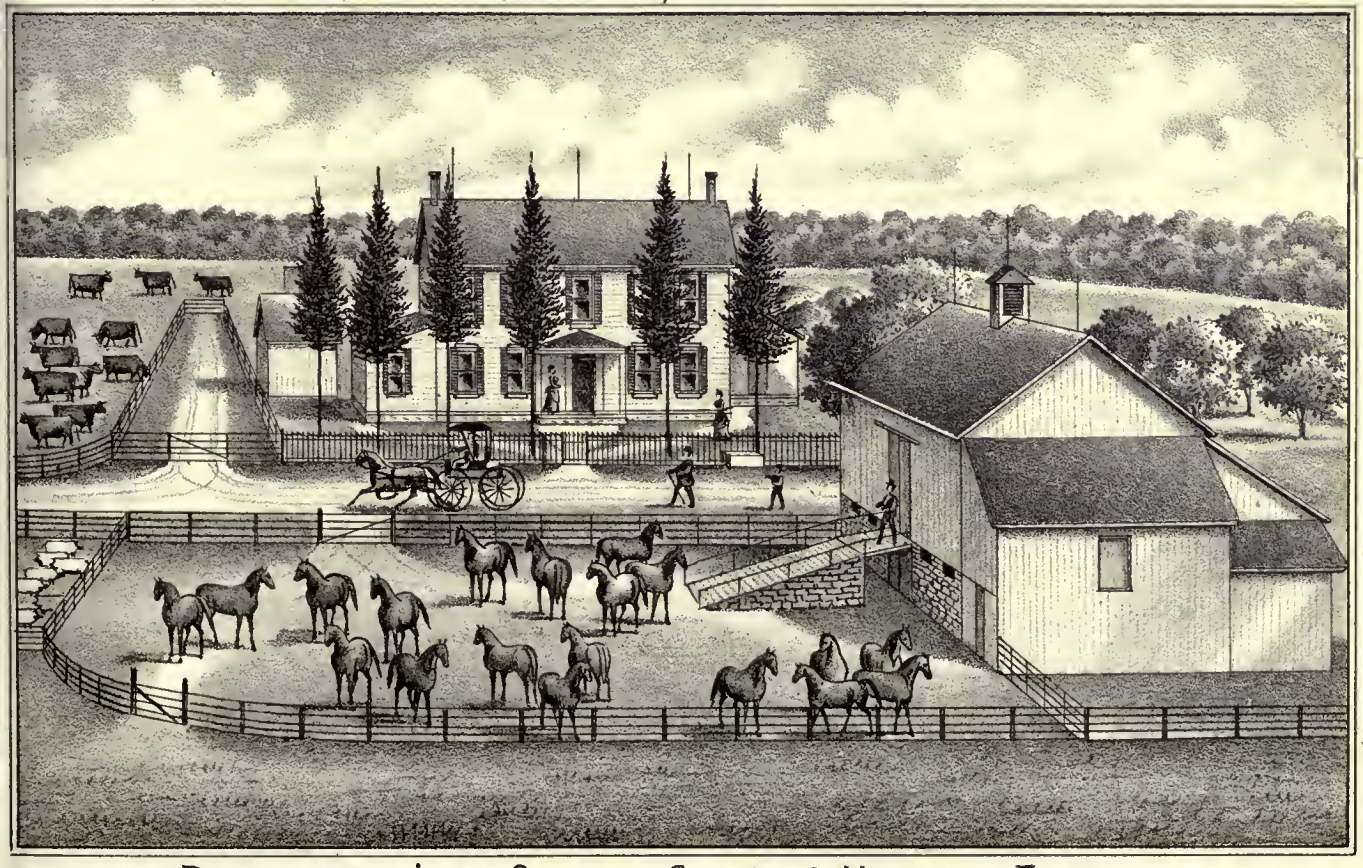
By the union of Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, a family of eight children was born, five sons and three daughters, of whom our subject was the eldest. The family circle remained unbroken until all had reached maturity. The entire number were married and had families, and, with one exception, are yet living. One of the brothers died, leaving a wife and child.

Mr. Phillips, the subject of this notice, passed the days of his childhood and youth in his native county, and in the schools of the neighborhood received his education. In Guernsey County his parents resided, and with them he remained until attaining his majority, when he left home and became a resident of Pickaway County. There he led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah Reed, who was born in Pennsylvania, June 7, 1833, and is a daughter of Lewis and Mary (Myers) Reed, also natives of the Keystone State. The parents were reared and married near their childhood home, where their children were also born. When Mrs. Phillips was a young girl, they left their Eastern home, emigrating to Pickaway County, Ohio, where the parents passed the remainder of their lives. They were members of the Evangelical Association, and both died in the faith of that society, at a ripe old age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have been born eleven children, and though nearly all of them are married and have left the parental roof, none have been called from this life. Ezra, the first-born,



RESIDENCE OF JOHN M. PHILLIPS, SEC. 3. MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN SNYDER, SEC'S. 7. & 8. METAMORA TOWNSHIP.

married Louisa Cooper, and now resides with his family in Fremont, Dodge Co.. Neb., where he is engaged in farming; Mary is the wife of Trumbull Skinner, a resident farmer of Cass County, Neb.; William married Ellen Stumbaugh, and follows the same occupation in Dodge County, Neb.; Kate wedded George Gibson, and they reside on a farm near Fremont, Neb.; Olive married William Gibson, a farmer of Dodge County; Lewis R., unmarried, is a successful teacher of Dodge County; Evan is at home; Josephine is the wife of Perry J. Hoyt, who is engaged in agricultural pursuits in Montgomery Township. John W., Sherman and David are at home. The children have received liberal educational advantages, and are now respected men and women of the various communities, in which they reside. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips are active members of the United Brethren Church, and have been instrumental in advancing its interests and promoting its welfare. They give liberally to all enterprises for the good of the community, and rank among the best citizens of Woodford County. None are held in higher respect, and few are better known throughout the community. Mr. Phillips manifests a deep interest in political affairs, and is a stanch advocate of Republican principles. He has held various offices of honor and trust, for a number of years served as Justice of the Peace, and is now filling his third term as Township Supervisor. He discharges his duties with promptness and fidelity, and his public career is marked with the same faithfulness which has characterized his actions throughout life. A lithographic view of Mr. Phillips' neat and pleasant home appears elsewhere in this volume.

JOHN SNYDER, an intelligent, progressive member of the farming community of Woodford County, has several valuable farms, including the large and well-ordered estate in Metomora Township, where he makes his home. It is finely located one and one-half miles north of the city, and comprises 370 acres of well-improved tillable and pasture land. It is well supplied with modern machinery of all kinds for facilitating the labor of carrying on a farm, and has a good set of conveniently arranged buildings, indeed everything about the place shows that it is under the direction of a skilled, practical hand.

Our subject is of German birth, and was born in the Fatherland, in the month of October, 1819. His father, Nicholas Snyder, was also born in Germany, and was of German ancestry as far back as is known. He worked at the trade of a miller in his native country until about 1828, when he concluded to try his fortunes in America, hoping to be able to do better for his family than he could in the land of his nativity. Accordingly he came here with his wife and five children, and located in Pennsylvania. He remained a resident of the Keystone State until 1855, then emigrated to Illinois, with his family, coming by the way of the Ohio, Mississippi, and Illinois rivers, and landing at Peoria, then a small hamlet of log houses. He found a vacant log house on the present site of the Peoria House, and his family took shelter in that while he went forth in search of a suitable location. He found the country round-about still in a very wild, sparsely settled condition, deer and wolves plentiful, and much of the land still held by the Government, and for sale at $1.25 an acre. He secured a claim to a tract of land on Blue Creek, three-fourths of a mile south of Spring Bay. He immediately began to provide a suitable dwelling for his family, building for that purpose a log cabin, with a stick and mud chimney. Before his death Mr. Snyder had improved a good farm, that compared in all points with the best in his neighborhood, and he and his wife closed their eyes to the scenes of earth on the old homestead that their united labors had made into a comfortable home. They were the parents of nine children, who grew to maturity: Our subject; Isaac, a resident of Roanoke; Peter, who lives on Partridge Creek; Nicholas, living in Spring Bay; Daniel, who lives near Spring Bay; Caroline, wife of Adam Gable; Elizabeth, wife of Christopher Winkler; Margaret, wife of Robert Stinger; Christine, wife of Mr. Knapp.

He of whom we write was a lad of nine years

when he came to this country with his parents, and in their Pennsylvania home he passed the years of his boyhood, remaining an inmate of the parental household until he was sixteen years old, when he commenced life for himself, working out by the day or month. He was very industrious, and carefully saved his earnings, so that he was soon enabled to buy a tract of land in Partridge Township, after the removal of his father's family to this State. It was wild land, partly prairie, and the remainder covered with timber. He built a comfortable log house on his place, and at the time of his marriage he and his bride began their wedded life in that humble abode. He developed a good farm from his land, and continued to reside in that township until 1874, then coming to Metamora, invested in his present farm, which he purchased from Nancy Wilkinson, paying therefor $50 per acre, and besides owns other farms, as before mentioned.

Mr. Snyder has been twice married. The maiden name of his first wife was Susan Caldwell, and she was born in Ohio, a daughter of William and Betsy Caldwell. This truly estimable woman closed her eyes in death in the month of December, 1867, leaving one child, Ellen. Mr. Snyder was married to his present amiable wife, formerly Miss Lovina Baker, in January, 1869. She is a native of Luzerne County, Pa., and a daughter of Chauncey Baker, who was also born and reared in that county, and there married. In 1836 he emigrated to Illinois with his wife and two children, making the entire journey overland with a part of their household goods in their wagon, and cooking and camping by the wayside at night. He had been here the year previous, and had selected a claim in Partridge Township. He did not settle on that claim, however, but soon bought another, on which was a cabin built of slabs, where the family lived for a time. He then replaced it with a more substantial frame house. He improved a good farm and lived thereon until his death, when an honest, sober-minded, industrious pioneer passed away from the scenes of his usefulness. The maiden name of his wife was Julianne Staley, and she was born in the same county as her husband, and died on their homestead in Partridge Township. They were the parents of eight children: Louisa, Mrs. Snyder, Juliett, Mary, Merritt, Amanda, Perry, and Jennie. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder's union has been blessed to them by the birth of three children —Susan, John, and Simie.

Mr. Snyder is virtually a self-made man, having accumulated his money by patient toil and excellent management of his affairs. He is a man of sound understanding and solid worth, whose sterling traits of character have commended him to the respect and regard of his fellow-citizens. He is public-spirited, open hearted and open handed, giving liberally of his means for charitable objects, and materially aiding his township and county in various directions.

A lithographic engraving of the residence of our subject appears in this work, and brings before the reader's eye a picture of one among many beautiful rural homes in Woodford County.

JOHN DARST, the able and gentlemanly President of the Farmers' Bank of Eureka, is a son of Jacob Darst, who was a native of Augusta County, Va. The mother was a native of Greene County, Ohio. His parents were married and settled in Greene County, Ohio, continuing to reside there until they crossed the river to their home beyond. In addition to managing his farm, Mr. Jacob Darst also followed the occupation of a blacksmith, the village smithy thus becoming the center of interest for the youthful population for miles around. Their family was increased by the addition of six children, of whom John was the fourth. He was born Nov. 6, 1816, at his parents' residence in Greene County, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, continuing to live under the parental roof until 1838. During his residence with his parents he followed the pursuits of agriculture.

In the spring of 1851 he came to this county, and the following autumn removed his family to Olio Township, near Eureka. In 1856 Mr. Darst laid out the original town of Eureka, near his farm,

establishing his family within the limits of the corporation, where they have since made their home. On Jan. 6, 1882, in connection with Mr. E. O. Eymon, Mr. Darst and his son George founded the bank of Eureka, known as the Farmers' Bank. In 1885 Mr. Eymon withdrew from its management, since which time Mr. Darst and his son have conducted its affairs. The first flouring-mill to be erected in Eureka was put up in 1857, Mr. Darst being one of the company who built it. He remained connected with the business interests of the mill for some five or six years. The Eureka College is proud to point to him as one of its charter members. His well known integrity and his extensive business experience have made him a prominent factor in the growth and prosperity of this superior institution of learning. He was elected one of the Trustees of the college at the first business meeting held by those interested, and has continued in that office to the present time. He has also been President of the Board for some fifteen or twenty years, during all of which time his unfaltering trust in the future of the college, and his unflagging industry in pushing forward its affairs, have redounded not only to his honor but to the enlargement of its facilities and the increase of its efficiency.

Our subject and Miss Ruhamah Moler pledged hearts and hands in the marriage tie on the 22d day of November, 1838, in Greene County, Ohio. The bride's parents were John and Susan (Grumes) Moler, natives of Virginia. Leaving their Southern home they removed to Greene County, Ohio, establishing themselves on a farm near Dayton, which they made their home until removed hence by the grim destroyer, death. Mrs. Darst was a native of Greene County, Ohio, having been born April 22, 1822, in that place.

Mr. and Mrs. Darst have become the parents of eleven children, viz.: Oliver P., Harrison H., Leo C., James P., Henry R., Rolla M., Frank M., Susie M.; John W. died at the age of eighteen years; George W. and Jacob A. Summer's flowers and winter's snows came and passed and came again, until threescore and ten years had rolled themselves into eternity, bringing the anniversary of the marriage of our subject and his beloved wife around once again. This event was celebrated Nov. 22, 1888, at their elegant home. All the children with the exception of John W., were present to congratulate their parents on their successful arrival at this station of life's journey. Forty-three children and grandchildren brought their love and good wishes, while three more were unavoidably absent. Numerous and costly presents testified to the high regard in which this noble couple is justly held by the community. Conspicuous among the many and valuable gifts received was a gold watch of rare workmanship, which was given to the father by the children, with the names of the parents inscribed in the case, and also all the children's names.

CHARLES RIPPEL, since the spring of 1874, has been a prosperous farmer of Woodford County, where he has a farm located on section 36, in Panola Township. When he first removed to this county he bought eighty acres of wet, swampy land, seemingly unfit for cultivation. But it was in the drainage district, and after many failures and under the most discouraging circumstances, Mr. Rippel has at last succeeded in getting it well tiled, and now is the owner of 240 acres of land, which having formerly been under water, is now in a good condition. This is due to the management of Mr. Rippel, who to obtain this result has expended no little time and money. Into his farm he put over $1,000 worth of tile, while he and his boys did the work in laying the tile, etc. Now it is one of the most valuable farms in the county.

Mr. Rippel is a self-made man, and what he owns is the result of his own industry, intelligent labor and enterprise. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and has contributed liberally of his means to promote the interests and welfare of the church. Politically he is a Democrat and one of the political leaders in this section. He is a man of sterling integrity, honest, painstaking in whatever he attempts, and classed among the best citizens of

the county and as one of the representative German farmers of this section. Like all pioneers he has been a very hard working man, and it is only by enduring hardship and by the utmost self-denial, that he has accumulated his present property. During the first years of his residence in Illinois he chopped cordwood and railroad ties while a resident of Adams County. He is now in the prime of life, enjoying the fruits of his toil and of a life of usefulness. He is universally respected and will be long remembered as one of the foremost citizens of the county for which he has done so much.

Charles Rippel was born in Prussia, Germany, Feb. 2, 1835. He is the son of John and Henrietta Rippel, who gave to this son a good common school education, and tried in every possible way to fit him as well as their other children for the responsibilities of life. He gained a practical education in the German language and after coming to this country also learned the English language, of which he is a fluent speaker. His journey to this country was made in 1856, in company with his two brothers, Frederick and Christian Rippel. They took passage from the port of Bremen in a sailing vessel, and their voyage lasted for six weeks. At last, however, they landed in New York City, whence they all came to Fairfield County, Ohio. There for a period of more than five and a half years he worked for his brother, receiving his salary by the month. Finally he gained sufficient knowledge of the English language to start out for himself, and made his home in Adams County, Ill., for more than a quarter of a century.

Mr. Rippel has been twice married, his first union being with Johanna Zeiger, who became the mother of ten children, whose names are as follows: Amelia, who was married to Henry Gottel; August, Christian, Adolf, Caroline, Minnie, William, Charles, Frederick and Louisa. The latter is deceased. Mr. Rippel in after years was again married; this time his wife was Louisa Heina, a native of Germany. To them were born two children, of whom one alone survives, Anna.

After making his home for so many years in Adams County, Mr. Rippel at last changed his residence to Woodford County, of which he has for some years been an honored resident. He and his wife have become endeared to all the citizens of the place which is now their home, and number their friends by the score among those with whom chance or design has placed them.

JOHN M. GLESSING. It has been nearly thirty-seven years since the subject of this biography settled in Woodford County, during which time he was a carpenter and mechanic. He also owns a good farm which he rents. Frugal, industrious and persevering, he met with the usual reward of industry, accumulated a competence and is now living retired from active labor at a pleasant and comfortable home in El Paso. In Vermilion County, he has a fine farm of 190 acres and in El Paso, has his residence and grounds. His possessions are the result of his own unaided efforts, as he began in life dependent upon his own resources, and his career has been the reflection of many of the lives around him—men who form the bone and sinew of the community, developed from the force of circumstances in their youth.

Mr. Glessing came to Illinois from Lancaster County, Pa., where he had settled in 1842. His boyhood home was on the other side of the Atlantic, in the Kingdom of Wurtemburg, Germany, where he first opened his eyes to the light April 22, 1821. He comes of pure German stock as far back as is known and possesses many of the admirable characteristics of his ancestry. His father, John Frederick Glessing, was also born in Wurtemburg, followed the trade of a tub-maker for wine goods and spent his entire life upon his native soil. He was a skilled workman and to a large extent turned out wine casks and other similar vessels, which were required to be very strong and well built. He was remarkably stout and active and lived to the advanced age of eighty-four years. Both he and his excellent wife were members of the Lutheran Church.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Dora Wheeland. She likewise was a native of

Wurtemburg and died there at the age of fifty-two years. The parental family consisted of five sons and one daughter. Three of the sons died unmarried. The survivors, besides our subject, are Christina, the widow of Charles Vogt and a resident of Lancaster, Pa., and a brother, Gotlieb, who still continues a resident of Wurtemburg, and is employed as a timber and road inspector under the Government.

The subject of this notice had the advantages of a practical education and when leaving school served a thorough apprenticeship to the trade of a cabinet-maker, which he followed until coming to America. After that he gave his attention mostly to carpentering until after leaving Pennsylvania. In starting out on his journey to America he took passage on the sailing vessel "Burgundy" at the port of Bremen, which, after a voyage of thirty-four days, landed him in New York City. Thence he made his way to Lancaster County, Pa., and from there to Woodford County, Ill., as before indicated.

After becoming fully established as a citizen of Illinois, with the prospect of a home and a competence, Mr. Glessing in 1876 took unto himself a wife and helpmate, being married in McLean County, to Miss Mary Rehrmann. This lady was born in Prussia, Aug. 6, 1852, and is the daughter of Lewis and Ludwina (Kloidt) Rehrmann, who were born, reared and married in Prussia. Mr. Rehrmann learned the trade of harness-making which, however, he did not follow to a great extent, being a soldier most of the time and a member of the King's body guard with headquarters at Berlin and Potsdam. In the spring of 1854 he determined upon emigrating to America, and set out with his wife and daughter, Mrs. G., for the promised land. For eleven years thereafter they were residents of Connecticut, whence they removed in 1865 to Atlanta, Logan Co., Ill., and later came to El Paso. Finally the father established in business on his own account at Panola, and dealt in harness and saddlery, until his death, which occurred in September, 1885, when he was nearly fifty-nine years old. The mother is still living at Panola. Both parents had identified themselves with the German Catholic Church of which the father remained a member until his decease and with which the mother is still connected. Mr. Rehrmann politically, was a Democrat and had been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, and holding other positions of trust and responsibility.

Mrs. Glessing came to Illinois with her parents, and when a young lady learned the trade of a dressmaker which she followed two years prior to her marriage, successfully conducting a shop of her own at Bloomington. She at one time had charge of the nursery in the orphan asylum at Normal. Of her union with our subject there have been born seven children, two of whom, Albert and Anna are deceased. The survivors are Alfred, Emma R., Dora F., Barbara F., and Fred. Mr. Glessing belongs to the German-Lutheran Church and votes the straight Democratic ticket. Mrs. Glessing is identified with the German Catholic Church. During their long residence in this county they have made many friends and are universally esteemed wherever known.

THOMAS ROBBINS, is a well-to-do farmer, and an honored resident of Linn Township, where he has resided since 1873. Though not an old settler of the county, he has become thoroughly identified with its agricultural interests, and has been eminently successful in the prosecution of his calling. He was born in North Huntington County, Pa., Feb. 2, 1836. His father, Brintuel Robbins, was a native of the same county, a son of Hezekiah Robbins, also a native of the Keystone State. Brintuel Robbins, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, is supposed, from the best information we have at hand, to have been a native of New England, and was a pioneer of Westmoreland County, Pa. He took up a large tract of land bordering on the Youghiogheny River, and erected a mill, which he operated in connection with his farm labors, and resided there until his death. The grandfather had also a steam mill, and carried on a farm while managing it until

about 1844. In that year he removed to Illinois, and located in Rock Island County, on Buffalo Prairie, where he improved a farm, on which he spent his last years. The maiden name of his wife was Wilson, and she was likewise a native of Pennsylvania. The father of the subject of this sketch, was reared and married in his native county, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1870, when he came to Illinois, and settled in Linn Township. He purchased a farm on section 7, which remained his home until his demise in 1883. The maiden name of his wife was Hannah Wiley, who was born in the same county as her husband, and was a daughter of Sampson and Nannie (McGrew) Wiley. She died on the home farm in 1875, where seven of their ten children were reared.

The subject of this biography was reared to agricultural pursuits in the home of his birth, residing with his parents until he attained manhood, and then commencing life on his own account by renting land in his native township. In 1865 he removed to Sewickly Township, dwelling there until 1873. At that time he concluded to come West to better his fortunes, so he sold the farm that he had purchased in that place, and came to Woodford County. Here he bought the farm where he now resides, which is well improved, with substantial buildings, pleasantly located four miles southeast of the village of Washburn. In addition to his homestead, he has 160 acres of land, situated on sections 4 and 7, Linn Township, which is under excellent cultivation, and yields him a good income.

In 1860, Mr. Robbins took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Nancy Gaut, a native of the same township and county as himself, and a daughter of William and Isabelle Gaut. Three children have resulted from this union—Mary Isabelle, Brintnell, and Hannah Rebecca.

That our subject is in prosperous circumstances, is due to the fact, aside from the valuable aid he has received from his wife, that he possesses a certain force of character and a capacity for performing whatever he attempts, and that he is blessed with accurate judgment and good powers of discrimination. He has in a good degree those traits that win the hearty esteem of all with whom he deals, and have gained him many life-long friends. A sound Republican in his politics, he cordially supports his party at the polls. Religiously, both he and his wife are members in high standing, of the United Presbyterian Church.

WILLIAM R. GOUGH. A goodly delegation of the old pioneers have wisely retired from the active labors of life, and taken up their abode in El Paso, among whom may be mentioned as worthy of notice, the subject of this sketch. He is quite an extensive land holder, having farm property in Woodford, McLean and Livingston counties, aggregating probably 400 acres, all of which is thoroughly improved, and in a good state of cultivation. Eighty acres of this is in the town limits of El Paso, and is consequently quite valuable.

A native of Lancashire, England, Mr. Gough, was born Oct. 21, 1821, and for seven years in earlier manhood followed the sea. In 1842 he came to America, and lived in Columbia County, N. Y., until 1844, engaged in merchandising. In 1854 he began railroading, which he followed principally until retiring from active labor. He came to Illinois in 1855, in the interests of a railroad, and for many years was a trusted employe in this part of the State. This calling seemed particularly adapted to his capacities, and one in which he took a peculiar pride. During these years he was connected with various companies, including the Chicago & Alton, Indianapolis & St. Louis, and Missouri Pacific Railroads, and has been a resident of the cities of Bloomington and St. Louis.

The father of our subject was Joseph Gough, a paper-maker of Yorkshire, and whose family for generations had been engaged considerably in this industry. He spent his entire life in his native county, dying at the age of ninety-eight years. He married Miss Elizabeth Hall, who passed away twenty-eight days prior to the decease of her husband, and was about his own age. Both were members of the Church of England. Joseph was the eldest of his father's family, which was quite large,

comprising ten children, nine of whom lived to be middle aged and over. He was married to Miss Sarah Rushton, who was born a few miles from Birmingham, in Staffordshire. After their marriage they settled in Lancashire, where the father followed his trade most of his life, but finally returned to his native town in Yorkshire, and died there when about seventy years of age. He survived his wife thirteen years. They were Episcopalians in religion.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest son of his parents, whose family consisted of two sons and four daughters. He remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, and received a good practical education in the private school. His business experience began in an iron and hardware store at Liverpool, where he remained until setting sail for America, in 1842. He is one of the few who have become thoroughly identified with American institutions, and are proud of their adopted country. He was married in Missouri, to Miss Eunice B. Washburn, who was born and reared in New York State, and who went to Missuori to visit a sister, thus becoming acquainted with her future husband.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gough there have been born six children, three now living: Sarah, a teacher who makes her home with her parents; Rushton W., and Josephine. One son, Joseph and two infants are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Gough belong to the Episcopal Church, and our subject, who has always been active in local matters, votes the straight Republican ticket.

CHARLES McHUGH, a practical and progressive farmer residing on section 25, Greene Township, is one of the leading citizens of the community. He was born in County Donegal, Ireland, about sixteen miles from Londonderry, Dec. 15, 1834, and is the fourth in a family of nine children, whose parents are Charles and Margaret (Foster) McHugh. His father was born in Scotland, and his mother in Ireland, but was of Scottish descent. Their children were as follows: William, Robert, George, Charles, Jane, James, John, Martha and Margaret. Three of that number are now deceased: James, who died in Pennsylvania; Margaret, who died in Bloomington, Ill.; and Martha, who died in Indiana.

Our subject spent his early boyhood days in Ireland, and attended both the Protestant and National schools of that country. When seventeen years of age he determined to seek his fortune in America, where three brothers and a sister of the family had previously located. Bidding goodbye to the Emerald Isle, and the friends of his boyhood, he crossed the broad ocean, landing in New York City from the vessel "Arbor Gallitan," in which he had made the trip. For three months he remained in the city, where he worked in a marble yard, when going to Orange County, in the Empire State, he secured work as a farm hand, in which capacity he served three years. At the expiration of that time, following the course of emigration westward, he reached Illinois, and on the 26th day of November, 1855, he stepped off the stage at Eureka. That was his first introduction to the county, where he has since made his home. For several years he again was engaged as a farm laborer, and for some time was also an employe in a hotel at Eureka.

In the year 1857, in Woodford County, Mr. McHugh was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Catherine Wright, who was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, of Scottish parentage. He then rented a farm in Olio Township, which he engaged in operating for several years, when he purchased 103 acres of land, also in the same township. His purchase was made in 1876, Elder John Darst, of Eureka, being the former owner. For nine or ten years he made his home upon that land, when, selling out, he purchased his present farm in the autumn of 1885, taking possession the following spring. It comprises 213 acres of valuable land, the home is a comfortable one, and the surroundings indicate thrift and enterprise.

In 1876 Mr. McHugh was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, whose death occurred on the 22d day of October, at the age of forty-seven years. Seven children were born of their union,

six of whom are yet living: John William; Martha A. died at the age of six months; George W., Leona, Annie, Tillie and May are still with their father. Mr. McHugh was a second time married, April 15, 1878, when Miss Mary S. Hill became his wife. The lady is a native of Ohio, and a daughter of Richard and Mary (Worthington) Hill, the former a native of Cynthiana, Ky., and the latter of Clermont County, Ohio. In 1864 the family came to Woodford County, locating near Minonk. The parents are still living, and reside near Secor. The father is now fifty-seven years of age, while the mother is fifty-six years. Unto them have been born eight children, namely: Thomas, Mary S., James, Anna, Grant, John, Ellen and Benjamin.

With her parents, Mrs. McHugh left her native county, Clermont, when a child, and became a resident of Illinois. She was educated in the schools of this county, and made her home with her parents until her marriage with Mr. McHugh. Three children grace their union—Robert, Jennie and Grover. Harmony and good cheer characterize the home of this family, and the household is noted for its hospitality.

Mr. McHugh is an industrious farmer, and by his own efforts has secured a comfortable competency. Though he began life in this country without capital, working as a farm laborer, he has steadily climbed the ladder of success, and prosperity has crowned his efforts. As a citizen, he is true and patriotic, and has a warm love for his American home and the free institutions of this country. He has identified himself with the Democratic party, of which he is a warm advocate, and takes a deep interest in all public affairs.

DAVID T. FAUBER, an honored citizen of Woodford County, who has been prominent in its public and political life many years, is connected with its farming interests as one of the practical, substantial farmers of Roanoke Township, who have been so largely instrumental in its upbuilding. He was born in Augusta County, Va., Nov. 15, 1822. His father, Samuel C. Fauber, was born in the same county April 27, 1795, a son of one, Peter Fauber, a native of Germany, who came to America in colonial times with his parents, and on the breaking out of the Revolution sided with the colonists and took an active part in the war. It was the delight of his grandchildren to hear him relate his experiences of army life and to recount tales of his narrow escapes from British clutches. He was a farmer by occupation, and spent his last years in Virginia. The maiden name of his wife was Fanny Cable, and she was born of German parentage either in Germany or America.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a cabinet-maker and also that of a carpenter in his youth, he possessing a decided talent for mechanics. He bought a farm about nine miles south of Stanton, where his children were all reared, and they used to carry it on while he worked at his trade. He made his home there till death called him hence Oct. 10, 1872, at the advanced age of seventy-seven years, five months, and thirteen days. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Trout, and she was born in the same county as himself, the date of her birth being July 1, 1797, and she died on the home farm April 12, 1884, at the venerable age of eighty-six years, nine months, eleven days. Her father, David Trout, was, it is thought, born in Germany. He was a cooper by trade, and spent his last days in Augusta County, Va. The maiden name of his wife was Susan Whitsill. There were eleven children born to the parents of our subject, eight of whom grew to maturity, of whom the following is recorded: Sarah Ann married Samuel Swisher, and died in Pettis County, Mo.; Mary lives in Stanton, Augusta Co., Va.; our subject was the next in order of birth; George lives in Augusta County, Va.; Elizabeth married Henry C. Swisher, and they live in Hampshire County, Va.; Catherine married Henry Armstrong, of Stanton, Va.; Ellen married R. Benton, of South Carolina; William is now deceased; Margaret, Rebecca, and Andrew J. died when quite young.

He of whom we write grew to man's estate and received his education in his native county, and

continued to reside with his parents till his marriage. He then bought a farm of forty acres, a part of which was improved and the remainder in timber, and building a log house thereon, in that humble abode he and his bride commenced life together. They resided there till 1855, when our subject, attracted by the cheap, fertile lands of Illinois, and other advantages offered to an enterprising farmer, sold his Virginian homestead at a good advance on the original price and emigrated with his family to these parts. Shortly after his arrival he bought 160 acres of land on section 14, Roanoke Township. A small frame house was in process of erection on the place, and twenty-five acres of the land were broken and partly fenced, but the remainder was wild prairie, except a small tract of brush. The greater part of the prairies here were unoccupied, and deer were still to be found, while wolves and other wild animals were common. There were no houses where El Paso and Roanoke, now stand, and the distant towns of Peoria and Spring Bay, were the principal markets. Our subject has resided here continuously since settling here, and has reclaimed all of his land from its original wildness, and has sold a part at a good price for town lots, it being included in the town corporation. His farm, owing to its fortunate situation near good markets, its fertility of soil, and other advantages, is very valuable, and he has it under admirable cultivation and well improved, with a fine set of substantial, roomy frame buildings, and a good orchard of fruit trees, and all the appurtenances of a model farm.

Dec. 24, 1844 Mr. Fauber and Miss Nancy Kindig were united in marriage. Mrs. Fauber is a native of Augusta County, Va., born Feb. 8, 1824, a daughter of Emanuel and Betsy Kindig. Our subject and his wife have eight children living, of whom the following is recorded: Samuel H. married Mollie Faubus, and lives near Gilman, Iroquois County; Emanuel D., of Roanoke, married Margaret Smith, and they have one child, Annie Lee; Mary married Samuel Bullington, a resident of Livingston County, and they have four children—Olive, Minnie, Eleena, Pearlie; Barbara E. married Ed. M. Cox, of Roanoke, and they have two children, William Winfield and David A.; Virginia M. married John Heppard, of Roanoke, and they have two children, David P. and Progress; James W., living in Roanoke, married Minnie Peterson; Alice married Joseph S. Risser, of Roanoke; Minnie Lee lives at home. Lavina J., the oldest child of our subject and his wife, born Oct. 24, 1847, married John Heppard, and died March 31, 1879, leaving one child, David Clarence, who lives with his grandparents. Elizabeth Ann, the fourth child of Mr. and Mrs. Fauber, born April 9, 1854, died Dec. 24, 1859.

In Mr. Fauber's life we have an example of the true manhood that is an honor to any community. Whether in public or in private life he has preserved the same purity of motive and integrity of act, that have won for him the full confidence of his fellow-men, and they have entrusted to his care some of the most responsible offices within their gift. He has served as School Treasurer many years, and has represented Roanoke Township on the County Board of Supervisors several terms, and in that capacity rendered invaluable service to his township. He is, and has been a Justice of the Peace for the last sixteen years. In politics, he has been a leader among the Democrats of this locality, and has been a delegate to numerous county and district conventions, and has acted as Chairman. He is a man of earnest and sincere piety, and his religious views are embodied in the faith of the Christian Church, of which he and his wife are among the most active members. He has been deacon and trustee of the church, and a teacher and superintendent of the Sunday School.

DR. JAMES TWEDDALE, the leading physician and surgeon of Washburn, stands foremost among the members of his profession as represented in Woodford County, having a large and lucrative practice. He has built up a beautiful home in this village. New York City is his birthplace, and Oct. 21, 1832, the date of his birth. His father, Garlies Tweddale, was a native of Scotland, born in Wig-

tonshire, where his father, James Tweddale, spent his entire life. He was the proprietor of large landed estates, and as far as known had no other business than looking after his extensive property. But two of his children ever came to the United States, his sons Garlies and Andrew. The latter settled first in Western New York, and later in Hartford, Conn., where he died leaving no family.

The father of our subject was well educated in his native land, and coming to America soon after marriage, secured a situation as clerk in the Manhattan Bank, and was one of the most trusted employes of that institution, holding the position until his death, which occurred in February, 1839, at the age of twenty-eight years. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Patterson, and she was a native of the same shire as her husband. She spent her last years with her children, and died in Illinois in 1867. She was the mother of four children, the subject of this sketch being the oldest. Mary married Braman Loveless, and died in Kane County in 1866; Garlies lives in Woodford County. Elizabeth died in infancy.

He of whom this biographical sketch is written, was seven years old when his father died, soon after which sad event his mother moved to Saratoga County, N.Y., and located in West Charlton. There he received his early education in the public schools, and was advanced by attendance at Princeton Academy. At nineteen years of age he utilized his knowledge by teaching in Schnectady County, teaching and attending school alternately, and during the term of 1854–55 was an instructor in Princeton Academy. In 1856 he came West and located in Elgin, where he was employed in the various occupations of teaching, clerking and farming, in order to obtain the means with which to defray the expenses of a medical education, and during the year 1856 he commenced the study of medicine with doctors McClure and Merrifield, of Elgin, as preceptors. He subsequently attended lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago, and was graduated from that institution in 1869. On the 5th day of May, that year, he established himself in Washburn, where he has practiced continuously since with gratifying success both from a professional and financial point of view.

In 1861 Dr. Tweddale was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Catherine Russell, daughter of Lemuel and Sarah (Edwards) Russell, natives of North Carolina and Kentucky respectively, and pioneers of Marshall County, Ill., of 1832. Her parents are still living at a venerable age, her father being eighty-three years old and her mother eighty. On Jan. 7, 1888, death crossed the threshold of the pleasant home of our subject, taking the amiable and beloved wife and mother. Of the Doctor's marriage two sons were born, Russell and John R., a sketch of the latter appearing in this volume.

Dr. Tweddale has shown great skill in the treatment of difficult cases; he is well abreast of the times, keeps himself informed as to the new methods and discoveries in the medical world, and is well-educated apart from his professional knowledge. He is identified with the Woodford County Medical Society, and the North-Central Illinois Medical Society. He belongs to Washburn Lodge, A. F. & A. M. In his political views he is a thorough Democrat.

JOHN ENGEL, a worthy citizen of Panola Township, with whose farming interests he is connected, was brought to Woodford County, by his parents when a small boy, and was reared under the influence of the pioneer life that obtained here in those days, and since attaining manhood, has himself done much labor in improving his farm on section 32, which now compares favorably with the many other fine farms in this township. He was born Aug. 18, 1845, in the German Province of Lorraine, when it was a part of France. His parents, Christian and Anne Engel, were also natives of that province. When he was about three years old they emigrated with their family to America and came directly to Illinois, although they did not locate in Woodford County until about two years later, when they settled near Metamora, casting in their lot with the pioneers of that vicinity. Soon after their arrival the father's

useful career was suddenly cut short by his accidental death while yet in the prime of a stalwart, vigorous manhood. There were six children born to him and his wife, three of whom are living, as follows: John, our subject; Joseph, a resident of Iroquois County, Ill.; Anne, the wife of George Thorpe, Jr., of El Paso. After the father's death the family remained near Metamora for a time, and later the mother married again, becoming the wife of Andrew Baughman, with whom she and her children removed to Roanoke Township. There our subject was principally educated in the public schools, though his opportunities for schooling were somewhat limited. He has in a measure made up for those early deficiencies in his education by careful reading, and is a well-informed man. He early adopted the calling of a farmer, and has made it his life-work. Having his own way to make in the world, he has had some difficulties to contend with, some hardships to endure, and not a few obstacles to overcome before he achieved success, but by patient toil, perseverance, wise economy, and prudent management, and the aid of a capable wife, prosperity has been attained, and he and his family have a comfortable home, and all the conveniences that are desirable. He has witnessed much of the growth of the country to its present condition as a splendid agricultural center, with many fine farms and flourishing towns, where once wild animals roamed over uncultivated, lonely prairies, and through tracts of forest, and he has helped to bring about this change by his labors as a farmer. When about twenty years old he came to Panola Township, and in the northeastern part of the township purchased eighty acres of land, which he lived on many years, and was constantly engaged in its improvement. In the spring of 1889 he removed to his present farm on section 32. This comprises 103⅔ acres of well-cultivated land, and is amply supplied with an excellent class of buildings, and all things needful to make it a desirable farm.

Mr. Engel and Miss Mary A. Thorpe were united in the holy bonds of matrimony March 6, 1876, and one son, George L., has blest their union, born Aug. 31, 1878. Mrs. Engel was born in Peoria, this State, Nov. 15, 1854, a daughter of George Thorpe, Sr., of whom see sketch on another page of this work.

Self-made and self-educated, our subject may truly be said to have made good use of his God-given faculties, as he is in every respect a manly, straightforward, trustworthy man, who is held in high esteem by all who know him. He has the interests of his township at heart, and as School Director has promoted the cause of education within its borders. A temperate man, and an advocate of temperance reform, he is an earnest Prohibitionist in his political views. He and his wife are worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at El Paso.

JACKSON PARKER, a retired farmer and honored pioneer of Woodford County, now residing in Minonk, is a native of Virginia. He was born in Rappahannock County, on the 2d day of November, 1819, and is a son of James and Frances (Settle) Parker, who were also natives of the same State. The family is of German descent. The grandfather of our subject, James Parker, was a drummer in the Revolutionary War, and in later life received a pension for his services.

James Parker, Jr., was born in Virginia, and was married while in his native State. His wife died, leaving nine children, namely: Thornton, Shelton, Jane, Louisa, Matilda, Alcinda, Emily, Sarah and one who died in infancy. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Parker wedded Frances Settle, and the following is a record of the family born of the second union: Judge, the eldest, was killed at the age of fourteen years; Jackson, our subject, is the second in order of birth; James is now a resident of Washington, Ill.; Joseph resides in this county; Martin makes his home in Livingston County; Lewis is now deceased; Mary Ann, now Mrs. Turner, is living in Nebraska; Mildred is also deceased. The family removed from Virginia to Illinois in 1838, and settled in Woodford County, near the Illinois River, but the following spring

removed to Washburn, where the boys purchased a farm. Not a house marked the site of the present town, and for fifty miles to the east, northeast and southeast, not a settlement had been made. The parents resided upon the farm which their sons had purchased for a number of years, and then removed to Minonk, where the remainder of their lives was passed. Both died at an advanced age, Mr. Parker at the age of ninety-one years, while his wife's death occurred when eighty-four years of age.

The subject of this sketch was but nineteen years of age at the time of the removal of the family from his native State to Illinois. That was before the invention of the railroad system, and the journey was made with teams. Six weeks after leaving home, the party reached their destination, having crossed mountains, forded streams and traveled across barren prairies on the trip hither. Soon after their arrival, Jackson and his brother James, purchased eighty acres of land near the present site of the town of Washburn, and together engaged in farming for three years, when he sold his interest. He then rented land which he engaged in cultivating for some time, but in 1847 again purchased a farm. On the 11th day of March of that year, he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Harriet Dobson, daughter of Thomas and Mary Dobson. Mrs. Parker is a native of England, but in early life came with her parents to this country, the family locating in Pennsylvania, where Mr. Dobson purchased land and engaged in farming. Later they came to Illinois, and located in Marshall County, where the parents spent the remainder of their days.

After his marriage, Mr. Parker began the cultivation and improvement of his farm, and followed agricultural pursuits until 1865, when desiring to retire from active life, he removed to Minonk, where he has since made his home. He formerly owned 240 acres of land, and Mrs. Parker owned a tract of 120 acres. He still retains possession of 200 acres in Marshall County, and has twenty acres within the corporation limits of Minonk. Six children came to gladden the home of this worthy couple with their presence, and five are yet living—Mary F., who is now the wife of Samuel Richardson, a resident of Minonk; Alice J., who is living at home; Ida, wife of M. Campbell, also of Minonk; Nora, wife of Charles Stonier, who resides in Marshall County, Ill.; and Hattie E., at home. Charles, the first-born died in infancy.

For more than half a century Mr. Parker has been identified with the history of Woodford County, having witnessed almost its entire growth. At the time of his arrival, the country for miles around was in a wild and uncultivated condition, the prairies were still uncultivated, and the woodman's ax had left undisturbed the timbered regions. Deer and wolves were still frequently seen, and wild game was plentiful. In the changes which have taken place since that time Mr. Parker has nobly borne his part, and has done what he could for the upbuilding and advancement of the county. He has aided in the work of transformation and progress, has participated in the development of the wild land, and has been prominently connected with the promotion of its public enterprises. In company with Charles Dobson, he built the first store building in Minonk, and was the first dry goods merchant of that place, where he carried on business for about two years. He subsequently carried on a hardware store at that place for a short time, and has ever given liberally to the support of its social, educational and moral interests. In politics he is a Democrat, and socially is a charter member of Robert Morris Lodge, No. 247, A. F. & A. M., of Minonk. Few men are more widely or favorably known than Jackson Parker, the pioneer, and it is with pleasure we record his sketch.

W. S. DENMAN, now deceased, was a leading citizen of this county. He was born in Essex County, N. J., Dec. 7, 1807, and died at his home in El Paso Township, on the 25th day of November, 1879, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was descended from an early and prominent New England family, and was a son of Joseph Denman. His grandfather was also named Joseph. He was born in New Jersey

of English extraction, and on reaching manhood married Miss Catherine Townley, daughter of Effiingham Townley, who was also born of English parentage. His father, Lord Townley, was the founder of the family in America, having emigrated from his native land to this country during the Colonial days. He wedded a daughter of one of the first Governors of Massachusetts, and made his home in the old Bay State until his death.

The Denman family has for many generations been prominently connected with the history of New England, and its members have been leading and influential citizens of the various communities in which they reside. Joseph Denman, Sr., grandfather of our subject, bore a prominent part in the public affairs of his native State, where he was so well and favorably known. He died in New Jersey at an advanced age, and his excellent wife, who was a lady of intelligence and possessed of more than ordinary ability, also died in that State.

Joseph Denman, Jr., was reared to manhood under the parental roof, and on leaving home was joined in wedlock with Miss Catherine Badgely, whose family was also numbered among the prominent citizens of New Jersey. They passed the greater part of their married life in Elizabethtown, and died at a ripe old age. Like his ancestry, Mr. Denman was a man of note in the community where he resided, and his fellow-citizens greatly honored him for his ability and worth.

Our subject, whose name heads this sketch, was one of a large family of children. His life was one of usefulness, and in the various lines of business which he followed at different times he was generally successful. In early life he learned the hatter's trade, which he prosecuted for some years. Whatever the occupation which he pursued, he gave to it his whole time and attention, and by his unbounded energy and zeal was recognized as one of the leading business men of the community in which he lived. On the 21st day of March, 1829, he was united in marriage in Essex County, N. J., with Miss Ruth J. Munn, a sister of the late Ira Y. Munn, who was one of the prominent business men of Chicago, where he owned and operated an elevator of large dimensions for some years. The family is descended from New England stock, and its members have long been associated with the leading educators of that section of the country. David Munn, father of Mrs. Denman, was a highly educated man and influential citizen, and served his country in the War of 1812. She also numbers among her kinsmen the well known Stephen Vale, who was connected with the American inventors of prominence, being associated specially with Prof. S. F. B. Morse in his electrical discoveries and invention of the telegraphic system. He built the first locomotive that was ever built in America, at Spudwell, N. J.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Denman began their domestic life in New Jersey, where one child, a son, was born unto them. In 1842 they started for the then far West, their destination being Illinois. At length they arrived in Tazewell County, where they first located. Mr. Denman there purchased a cargo of eggs, which he shipped to New Orleans, but lost on that investment. Later he purchased land and experimented in raising hemp, but that venture also proved a failure, and he lost considerable money in the undertaking. Finally he became proprietor of a hotel at Tremont, which he operated for four years, during which time he entertained such distinguished guests as Abraham Lincoln, Judge David Davis, Gen. Shields, Gen. Gridley, and Stephen A. Douglas. After four years spent in hotel keeping he abandoned that business and removed to Bowling Green, where, in connection with his brother-in-law, Ira Y. Munn, he opened a store and engaged in general merchandising for eight years. They were quite successful in that line and built up a good trade. In 1856, however, Mr. Denman sold out and purchased a farm of 160 acres of land on section 7, El Paso Township, situated about one mile southwest of the city. He secured the land from the Government, which consequently was in an entirely uncultivated condition, but in a short time he had a considerable portion of the amount under cultivation, and had erected good buildings. These, however, were swept away by a hurricane a few years later, but with characteristic energy he replaced them by more substantial structures, and built a pleasant residence which he surrounded with beautiful shade trees, which to-day still adorn the

farm, and stand as monuments of the thrift and industry of him who was the owner.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Denman were born six children, four of whom are now deceased, namely: Munn; Alfred, who served as a soldier in the 11th Illinois Cavalry; Francis L. C. and Mary E., wife of Adam Basford, who died leaving a family of children. Those who yet survive are Theodore A., unmarried, who for some years was engaged in business in Chicago, Ill., Wisconsin, and Bloomington, Ill., but is now engaged in farming with his brother; William C., the younger, is a leading young farmer of El Paso Township. He received a liberal education in the schools of El Paso, and remained under the parental roof until the death of his parents, whom he kindly and tenderly cared for until they were called home. He now owns and operates the old homestead farm, which was entered and improved by his father, and under his able management it has brought a rich return for his labor. He possesses good business ability, and will doubtless become one of the wealthy farmers of the county. In politics, he is a warm advocate of the Republican party, while his brother Theodore supports the Democratic party.

Mr. Denman is a prominent and influential citizen of El Paso Township, and by his sterling worth and strict integrity, gained a large circle of friends, by whom his death was sincerely mourned. His life was a long and useful one, and no person could say aught against his character. He never united with any church, but his wife embraced the faith of the Episcopal Church. On the 25th day of November, 1879, he passed away, and the county lost one of its best citizens.

GEORGE W. HORNER, ex-Sheriff of Woodford County, is one of the leading citizens of Panola, both as a valued public official and as one of its most enlightened farmers. He is a veteran of the late Civil War, entering the army ere he had attained his majority, and displaying the courage, coolness and fortitude of a true soldier on many a hard-fought battle-field, where his good services won him the commendation and esteem of his commanding officers, and would have brought him promotion if he had not, with noble disinterestedness, refused a commission that he might remain with his regiment.

Mr. Horner was born in Perry County, Ohio, Aug. 12, 1842, a son of William and Susan Horner, the former a native of Maryland and of New England ancestry, and the latter born in Ohio, and of Pennsylvania-German descent. When our subject was about four years old his parents removed to Licking County, Ohio, and in 1854 came to Illinois to live. They left Licking County, October 10, with their seven children, in a wagon covered with canvas and drawn by two horses, and camped by the way wherever night overtook them, and were some twenty days in getting to their destination in Woodford County. They located in Kansas Township for a short time, renting land for awhile, and during the war the father bought a farm in Olio Township, near Eureka, and resided thereon for a time actively engaged in carpentering. His sons carried on the farm But he finally came to Panola, and spent his last years here, as did his wife. They were people of integrity and worth, and were held in general esteem by all who knew them.

George Horner was a lad of ten years when he accompanied his parents to this county. At that time the surrounding country was still in a wild condition, still in the hands of the pioneers, not having made much progress toward the advanced state of civilization that it has since attained, and he may virtually be said to have grown up with the county. He received his education in the public schools of Ohio and this State, and has still further extended it by careful reading and close observation, and is well posted on all topics of general interest. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and has since carried on that occupation, except when his public duties have caused him to lay aside private business. Aug. 9, 1862, a few days before he was twenty years old Mr. Horner enlisted in Company E, 108th Illinois Infantry as a private, and went forth to fight his country's battles. His regiment was attached to the 13th Army Corps, and operated mainly in the western department. He was with

Sherman in his attaek on Vieksburg, and took part in the siege of that city, and subsequently he and his regiment were put under the command of Gen. A. J. Smith, and took an active part in the celebrated Guntown raid, in which 8,000 hrave men went to battle with colors flying, and only 2,000 men returned to tell the tale of that awful carnage. Our subjeet was also at the battles of Arkansas Post, Grand Gulf, Champion Hills and Big Black River, and at the sieges of forts Spanish and Blakely, and took part in many skirmishes too numerous to mention. For his brave conduct he was offered the position of First Sergeant of another company, but he refused it, preferring to remain with his old comrades by whose side he had fought since entering the army. He was engaged in the running fight with Gen. Forest, the noted rebel cavalry chieftain, in the celebrated raid at Memphis. Our subject was honorably discharged, having done his duty as a soldier faithfully and conscientiously, Aug. 12, 1865, just three years to a day from his enlistment.

After the war closed Mr. Horner returned to Woodford County, and has been a resident here ever since, making his home on section 29, Panola Township, where he is busily engaged in agricultural pursuits. His farm, one of the best cultivated and most productive in the vicinity, comprises 180 acres of choice land, and is provided with all necessary buildings and farming machinery, and everything about the place is orderly and well-kept.

In every position in which our subject has been placed he has never been found wanting in those traits that win confidence and true respect, or in the ability and intelligence to fulfill his duties in the best possible manner. He was elected Sheriff of Woodford County in 1878, for a term of two years, and so well did he manage the affairs of that office, displaying ready tact, great sagacity and discrimination, that in 1882 his constituents honored him by re-election to that responsible position for a period of four years, the term having been lengthened by law. His every act during the whole six years that he was an incumbent of the shrievalty would bear the test of public scrutiny, and his whole course was such as to call down upon him the commendations of all men irrespective of party. In January, 1889 he was appointed to the office of School Treasurer of Panola Township, and is to serve for a term of two years. He is an active member of the Republican party, takes a keen interest in politics, and also in everything that tends to promote the highest good of his township or county, socially, religiously or materially.

The marriage of Mr. Horner with Miss Mary A. Shaw, daughter of O. P. Shaw, of El Paso, was solemnized March 3, 1872. They have four children, namely: Charles P., Clyde F., Clara A. and Chester. He and his wife are people of exemplary habits, and are among the leading members of the Christian Church at El Paso, and he is at present serving as Superintendent of the Sunday-school of that society. He is a valued member of the Grand Lodge at El Paso.

PETER DONNER, the Assessor of Panola Township, is likewise considered one of its leading farmers, making his headquarters on section 3, and taking an honest pride in the operation of one of the best homesteads in that region. He is a gentleman in the prime of life, having been born Jan. 3, 1853, and is a native of this county, to which his parents, Christian and Catherine (Rogy) Donner, came nearly forty years ago.

The father of our subject was a native of Germany, and after coming to Illinois, was married in Woodford County to the mother, who was a native of this State. The father operated as a farmer on rented land about five miles west of Metamora, from about 1849 until the spring of 1856. He then settled upon the land which he now owns and occupies. His first purchase was eighty acres, for which he paid $6 per acre, and upon which no improvements had been made whatever, and there were but two houses in sight in any direction outside of Panola Village.

By a course of unremitting toil and close economy the elder Donner brought his first purchase to a good state of cultivation, and subsequently in-

vested his surplus eapital in additional land until he became the owner of 200 aeres. He had nothing when landing in America, and his aecumulations were the result of his own unaided efforts. He first followed earpentering for a while, and then wisely eoneluded that farming would yield better results.

Christian Donner, politically, votes the straight Demoeratie tieket, and has been quite prominent in loeal affairs, serving as Sehool Director for many years, as Road Commissioner and School Trustee. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Mennonite Chureh. There have been born to them seven children, only four of whom are living, viz.: Peter, Bena, the wife of J. M. Shaw, of this county; Katie, Mrs. Peter Strubhar of Tazewell County; and Anna, who is at home with her parents. Besides his real estate in Illinois, Mr. Donner owns property in Kearney, Neb. Although now past sixty years of age, he is still healthy and aetive. No man has taken a livelier interest in the growth and development of his adopted eounty, and he may justly feel that he has been no unimportant faetor in assisting it to its present condition. He has seen the time when deer and wolves were plentiful in this region, several of which he has brought down with his own rifle. As one of the earliest settlers of Woodford County, and possessing all the qualities of an honest man and a good citizen, he is held in universal respect.

Peter Donner, our subjeet, was but three years old wheu his parents settled on the farm where they now live. He reeeived a praetical education in the common sehools, and for a short time attended Eureka College. He worked with his father on the farm during his boyhood and youth, but in 1886 left home and began selling steam threshers for the firm of Niehols, Shepard & Co., of Battle Creek, Mich., a business in whieh he is still engaged, while at the same time superintending the operations of his farm. He was married, Oet. 2, 1883, to Miss Anna Risser, who was born in this county, April 22, 1861, and is the daughter of John and Anna (Farney) Risser, who are residents of Roaneke Township.

Our subjeet rents his father's farm of 200 acres, and as an agrieulturist is meeting with unqualified success. In polities he is an uneompromising Demoerat, and is serving his seeond term in his present offiee. In loeal affairs his aim is to support the eandidate whom he eonsiders will best serve the interests of the people. Enterprising, intelligent and popular, there is before him a fair outlook for the future.

THOMAS SCOTT, a farmer and stoek-raiser of Panola Township, is one of the many prosperous residents of Woodford County. His farm is loeated on seetion 8, where he has 120 aeres of land, all under high cultivation and kept in fine eondition. When he made it his home he found it in a highly uneultivated state, it being covered with a rank growth of thistles and weeds. These were not conquered and subdued without a great deal of trouble, but they at last disappeared under the persistent efforts used to remove them. Now he has a pleasant farm, with substantial farm buildings, and a eomfortable home, where he and his family live happily, and in whieh they weleome their many friends.

Mr. Scott is an Englishman, possessed of their many persistent, industrious traits, and having enough of their noted stubborness to make him determined and suceessful in whatever he undertakes. The fame of England is to a large extent due to their so-called "stubborness," and perhaps it would be a fortunate eharaeteristie if Amerieans cultitivated it even more than they do. Our subjeet was born Nov. 7, 1830, in Buekinghamshire, England, to William and Charlotte Seott. He was their eldest son, and reeeived a fair edueation, perhaps better than the majority of the young men of that time were fortunate enough to obtain. In the years of his boyhood and youth he attended quite a number of sehools of different kinds and grades. In the spring of 1859 he emigrated to Ameriea, taking passage at Liverpool, and oecupying five or six weeks in the ocean voyage. They escaped, however, without any severe storms, having what is called a "fair voyage." He eame immediately

Reuben P. Bell

to Woodford County, Ill., and for one year remained with his brother, William Scott, near Metamora. In 1860 he came to Panola Township, where he rented his farm for some time, but finally settled on his present homestead in 1864 or 1865. He now owns a well-improved farm of 120 acres of land, all obtained by his own efforts. His original purchase was forty acres of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, which had been broken but not cultivated. He soon afterward bought forty acres near his first purchase, and subsequently added another forty to this, making in all 120 acres of good land. Upon this he has made all the improvements necessary to a well-cultivated farm of the present time, and has added to the value of the real estate by his labor. His has been a life of hard work, battling with nature, breaking up the prairie, and gradually reducing a seemingly uninhabitable tract of land to its now prosperous appearance.

Mr. Scott has added to his pleasures and responsibilities by taking unto himself a wife, whose maiden name was Keziah Clark, and who was also a native of England. To her he was married, in 1852, in England. They have had a large family of children, of whom the following survive: Zepora, who is the widow of William Tool, and a resident of McLean County, this State; Mary A., who became the wife of Sydney Williams, a resident of McLean County; Sarah, the wife of George Bell, living in Woodford County, Ill.; Adelaide and Oliver G. These children were all given good educations by their parents, and were prepared to take prominent places in the society which they now adorn. Mr. Scott has served as School Director, but has never been an aspirant for public office, preferring the tranquillity of home life to the noise and tumult attendant upon the race after the honors and emoluments of office. He does not bind himself to any party opinions, but votes for the man irrespective of party affiliations. His wife owns eighty acres of good land in McLean County, which contributes to the financial status of the family.

Mrs. Scott, as has been already mentioned, is a native of England, and was born in October, 1831. Her parents were James and Frances Clark, also born in England. Mrs. Scott emigrated to America with her husband in 1859, and has been of material assistance to him in his undertakings, and has always been a wise counselor and faithful companion. They have many friends in their vicinity, who all unite in wishing them continued prosperity in the future, such as they have had in the past.

REUBEN P. BELL, whose portrait is presented to the readers of this volume, is a retired farmer, occupying a beautiful house in Minonk, and is numbered among the wealthy men of Woodford County. He is a fine representative of those persevering, thrifty and prudent pioneers, who came to this section of the country when it was yet in its infancy, and while building up fine homes and enriching themselves, have also become important factors in developing the resources and aiding the prosperous growth of county and township.

Mr. Bell is a native of Kentucky, born in Oldham County, March 31, 1810, to Robert F. and Mary (Pemberton) Bell, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Joseph Bell, grandfather of our subject, also born in Pennsylvania, was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. He was a farmer by occupation, and in 1788 removed from his native State to Kentucky, becoming a pioneer thereof, and there he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of ninety-six years.

To him and his wife were born eight children, seven of whom attained old age; Robert, father of our subject, was reared a farmer, and in 1809 married in Kentucky, remaining there several years after. In 1818 he removed with his family to Indiana, residing in that State until 1833, when he came to Illinois as one of its earliest settlers, and located in Putnam (now Marshall) County, where he had two years previously entered a tract of land, and there he and his wife passed their remaining days, she dying when fifty-one years old, and he at the age of seventy-nine years. Of their family of nine children, all grew to maturity, the

following being their record: Reuben P.; Julia L., who married John Bates, died in Marshall County; Frances is the wife of John Wineteer, of Minonk; George F. died in Marshall County; Susan, who married William Myers, died in Marshall County; J. M. lives in Bureau County; John E. died in Minonk; Elizabeth, who married Jackson Laudterman, died near Springfield; Robert died in California.

Reuben P., of this sketch, left his native State with his parents when a lad, and going to Harrison County, Ind., finished his education and became a tiller of the soil. He continued an inmate of the parental home for some years, coming with his family to Illinois and settling in Marshall County. He was industrious, energetic, possessed of financial shrewdness, and with his ability to earn money, also had the faculty of saving it, two qualities not always combined in the same person. Continuing a resident of Marshall County, for many years, he in the meantime purchased and improved 400 acres of land, and accumulated a good property. In 1860 he came to Woodford County, and bought a tract of raw prairie land, which is now near the center of the city limits of Minonk, on which he built his commodious house, one of the finest in the place, the buildings and their attractive surroundings being indicative of the prosperity, excellent judgment and good taste of the occupants. Mr. Bell is also the owner of other real estate in Illinois, besides that already alluded to, the number of acres in his possession aggregating 1,500. Of this large property all has been amassed since he came to Illinois, and is due entirely to his own wise sagacity and true economy.

Mr. Bell has been twice married. The maiden name of his first wife, to whom he was married in Marshall County, Ill., in November, 1837, was Nancy Palmer, a native of Indiana. She died in September, 1844, leaving him with one child, Frances, now the wife of James Dennis, of Eureka. The second union of our subject took place April 1, 1846, when he was married to Miss Lydia A., daughter of Charles S. and Mary Edwards. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards were born in the United States, of Welsh origin. In 1831 they removed from Kentucky, where the birth of Mrs. Bell occurred Dec. 31, 1827, to Marshall County, being among the pioneers of that county. For a few years after coming to Illinois Mr. Edwards taught school, then engaged in farming, and is at present living in Rutland, at an advanced age, having been born April 1, 1806. Mrs. Edwards died at the age of sixty-nine years. They had a family of ten children, eight of whom grew to maturity, the following being their record: Lydia is the wife of our subject; William and James died in Lacon; Sarah, who married Norval Barnum, died in Whiteside County; John lives in Butler County, Neb.; Charles lives in York, Neb.; Robert lives in Lacon; Mary is the wife of J. H. Bovoort, of Rutland.

To Mr. Bell and his present wife have been born two children, Sarah, wife of B. M. Stoddard, of Minonk, and Adelaide, wife of William S. Marquis, of Rock Island.

Mr. Bell cast his first Presidential vote in 1832 for Andrew Jackson, and has since then voted the Democratic ticket. He has taken much interest in local affairs, and has filled various township offices acceptably to all. Mrs. Bell is an esteemed member of the Presbyterian Church.

PHILIP F. LIVINGSTON. In a history intended to perpetuate the names and lives of prominent people of Woodford County, an important place certainly belongs to the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, for he has the honor of being the first settler in Clayton Township, as well as one of the earliest in the whole county. His residence here dates from April 14, 1854, when he settled on the northwest quarter of section 7.

Mr. Livingston is the son of James and Miranda Livingston, natives of New Hampshire. This family for five generations have resided in New England. The parents of our subject resided on a farm in their native State until 1854, when they came to Illinois and settled in Clayton Township. The father of Philip Livingston was married three times, our subject being a child of the first mar-

riage. By his first wife he had four children, namely: Lucinda, who is dead; Hiram, who lives in Buffalo County, Neb.; Isaiah, who resides in New Hampshire, and Philip. The mother passed away in 1841. James Livingston was again married, being united with Eliza Roby, by whom he had three children, whose names are Nathaniel, Lucinda and Martha. They are all deceased. After the death of his wife, he subsequently married Fannie G. Heath, who had accompanied her parents on their removal to Illinois, and who died in Minonk, leaving no children. The father of our subject was Assessor of Clayton Township, and in politics he was in sympathy with the principles of the Republican party from the organization of the same. He died at his home in Minonk, in 1878, having reached the age of seventy-four years.

As before stated, our subject came with his parents to Illinois in 1854, and in 1861 enlisted at the opening of the great National struggle, and was mustered in with Company G, 17th Illinois Infantry. He was sent to the front, and participated in the battles of Ft. Donelson and Vicksburg; also was in the siege of Vicksburg. He was wounded in the battle of Ft. Donelson by a gunshot, which disabled him, and prevented him from returning to the service for the period of eight months. Altogether he was in the service five years and one month.

Upon the close of the Civil War, Mr. Livingston returned home and resumed farming. In 1865 he celebrated the return of peace by his marriage with Miss Mary McCune, the daughter of Robert and Nancy McCune. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and settled in Illinois in 1857, where they both died. Mr. and Mrs. Livingston have six children, namely: Eleanor Marinda, Robert M., Philip F., Fannie, Nannie and Mary B. The eldest child is the wife of William H. Randolph, a resident of Buffalo County, Neb. The others are yet under the parental roof.

In politics Mr. Livingston is a strong Republican, and has served as Town Clerk, Assessor, School Trustee and School Director, all of which positions he has filled to the best of his ability, and to the entire satisfaction of the community at large.

Mr. Livingston is the administrator of the estate of his brother Nathaniel, and is also the guardian of his two orphan children. Our subject and his family are comfortably situated in their pleasant home, and are met and welcomed in the most select circles of society. Mr. Livingston is now the owner of 128 acres of land, which is well improved and highly cultivated.

ANDREW J. GARDNER, late of El Paso, departed this life at his home in that city, June 29, 1869. He was born in New Lisbon, Otsego Co., N. Y., June 4, 1830, and was the son of Potter and Mary (Thurston) Gardner, who were likewise natives of the Empire State. The father was a farmer by occupation and spent his entire life in his native State, dying in Otsego County when middle-aged. He lived the life of an honest man and a good citizen, was successful in business and respected by all who knew him. His widow, although past eighty years of age, is still living and remarkably active in mind and body. She makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. William Newman, in Vermilion County, this State. Both she and her husband identified themselves with the Baptist Church, of which she is still a member.

The subject of this sketch was the second child in a family of four sons and one daughter, comprising the parental family, all of whom lived to mature years and were married. There are now living one son and one daughter—William H. and Mrs. William Newman, both residents of Vermilion County. Andrew J., like his brothers and sisters, received careful parental training. He took kindly to his books at school, and at an early age developed into a teacher, which profession he followed during the winter season a number of terms. He was entirely dependent upon his own resources, and the necessity for earnest effort was the means of developing within him those qualities which which have brought him success in life.

While a resident of his native county, our subject was married, Aug. 23, 1858, to Miss Eliza-

beth Angel, who was a native of Chenango County, N. Y. Mrs. Gardner was born June 9, 1837, and is a daughter of Lewis and Lucy (Caswell) Angel, who were likewise natives of the Empire State. Her paternal grandparents were Asa and Cynthia Angel, natives of New England, and, it is believed, were born in Rhode Island. Her family was first represented in America by three brothers, who crossed the Atlantic from Scotland, and founded homes in Rhode Island, near the capital of the State, prior to the Revolutionary War. They are now represented by a large number of descendants. Asa Angel and his wife spent their last days on a farm in Chenango County, N. Y., passing away when ripe in years.

The parents of Mrs. Gardner after their marriage began life on a farm in Chenango County, N. Y., and there spent the remainder of their lives, each dying after having attained their threescore years. They were most estimable and worthy people, and Baptists in religion. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters, of whom Mrs. Gardner was the fourth in order of birth, and all of whom lived to become men and women. Three daughters and two sons are yet living. Mrs. Gardner received careful parental training and a good education in the schools of her native township, and was thus well fitted for her future position in life as the partner of a good man's home.

Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner set out for the wilds of Woodford County, Ill., locating in Panola Township, in the summer of 1858. Mr. Gardner purchased 160 acres of wild land, in the cultivation and improvement of which he was successful, building up a good home, which they occupied until the spring of 1869. They then changed their residence to El Paso, and Mr. Gardner did not long survive the removal. He was a man who read much, thus keeping himself thoroughly informed as to current events, and employed his leisure hours in improving his mind. Politically, he was a Democrat, and in religion a Baptist. He presented the example of a true Christian life, and made for himself a record which his descendants may look upon with pride.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gardner there were born three children, one of whom, Frank A., died Nov. 20, 1863, aged three years. The survivors are: Flora E., the wife of Frank Stitt, Cashier of the National Bank of El Paso, and Lewis A., who remains at home with his mother. Mrs. Gardner is a very intelligent lady, and has successfully managed her financial affairs since the death of her husband. Both she and her children are members in good standing, of the Baptist Church. They occupy a pleasant home in the central part of the city, and number their friends and acquaintances among its best people.

JOHN DOWN, a general farmer, residing on section 7, El Paso Township, is an intelligent and enterprising citizen, and one of the truly self-made men of this county, where he has made his home for almost a quarter of a century, dating his residence from 1865. Few men starting in life in like circumstances as he, have been so successful, but he well merits the prosperity which have attended his efforts, as he has labored with untiring zeal to make for himself and family a home.

Mr. Down was born in Devonshire, England, near Highbickington, on the 21st day of November, 1837, and is a son of William Down, who was also a native of the same county. On attaining to man's estate, his father married Miss Elizabeth Bragg, and they began their domestic life in the community where they were born and reared. A family of seven children, three sons and four daughters were born to them. One daughter died in England at the age of forty six years, but the other members of the family became residents of this country, where four are yet living. The parents spent their entire lives in the vicinity of their childhood home, the father dying at the age of seventy years, while the mother, at the time of her death, had long since passed the psalmist's three score-and-ten, being called to her final rest in the eighty-first year of her age. Both Mr. Down and his wife were members of the Church of England, the Episcopal.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and

youth in his native land, but at an early age began earning his own livelihood. Since that time he has been dependent upon his own resources, but though he has met many trials and discouragements, he has overcome all the difficulties until he is now numbered among the well-to-do farmers of Woodford County. When seventeen years of age, believing that the opportunities afforded in the New World were superior to those of the older countries of the East, he resolved to make America the scenes of his future operations, and acting upon that determination, sailed from Liverpool, in the American vessel, "Orient." After six weeks spent upon the Atlantic, he landed in New York City, on July 8, 1855. He spent the succeeding year near Batavia, N. Y., and at the end of that time continued his journey until reaching Peoria County, Ill. On his arrival, he was not only entirely without capital with which to begin life in this land of strangers, but previous to leaving home he was compelled to borrow $50 with which to pay the expenses of the voyage. Part of that sum was obtained from his brothers and part from a young girl, a domestic, who for five years had worked in the same place in England, where Mr. Down was employed. He remained in Peoria County, from 1856 until 1865, covering a period of nine years, when he came to this county and settled in Panola Township, where he purchased eighty acres of land. He engaged in operating that farm for a number of years, and added greatly to its value by placing the entire amount under a high state of cultivation, and making useful improvements. In 1885, however, he removed to his present home on section 7, El Paso Township, where he owns a fine and well improved farm of seventy-nine acres. From an humble position, he has steadily worked his way upward until he has now a comfortable competence, and by his industrious life, upright and honorable dealing has won the confidence and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

While residing in Peoria County, Mr. Down led to the marriage altar Miss Ann Vailey, who was also a native of Devonshire, England. She was born Nov. 1, 1841, and is a daughter of John and Ann (Lang) Vailey, whose birth also occurred in the same county. By occupation, her father was a farmer, and in the fall of 1855, he emigrated to America with his family, and made his first settlement in Peoria County, Ill. At the age of seventy years, he was called to his final rest. His wife then came to this county, and died in El Paso Township in February, 1888, at the age of eighty years. They were members of the Church of England, and were highly respected people.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Down, five of whom are yet living—Lizzie, who is a teacher of recognized ability in Panola Township; Minnie E., Flora B., Luella J. and Alice E. are at home. Two sons of the family, William and Thomas are deceased. In politics, Mr. Down affiliates with the Democratic party. Himself and wife attend the Baptist Church, and rank among the best citizens of the county, where they are so well and favorably known.

SAMUEL L. KERR, M.D. The medical fraternity of El Paso and vicinity, bears fair comparison with that of its sister cities, and the subject of this notice is no unworthy representative of his profession. He made his advent in this county in June, 1856, and after one year spent in Kappa established himself at El Paso, where he soon entered upon a large and lucrative practice, extending throughout this part of the county. He has been a close student and a careful practitioner, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem not only of his patrons but the entire community.

When a young man Dr. Kerr began the practice of his profession in East Liberty, Allen Co., Ind., in May, 1850. He traversed the country on horseback with his saddle bags behind him, and for a number of years was frequently called out both day and night with comparatively little rest. His health finally broke down under the strain, and he spent one year traveling over the country, sightseeing and hunting deer and wild turkeys. This year's rest and recreation were very beneficial, and

in the spring of 1856 he resumed his practice and has since pursued it almost uninterruptedly to the present time. Before entering upon the study of medicine he had followed the profession of a teacher nine terms.

A native of Washington County, Pa., Dr. Kerr was born Aug. 11, 1823, at the homestead of his parents, which lay on Pigeon Creek. His father was Aaron Kerr, a native of New Jersey and the son of Samuel Kerr. Joseph Kerr, the father of the latter, came from Scotland to America, with two brothers prior to the Revolutionary War. He married a lady whose first name was Elsie and they spent the remainder of their lives in New Jersey, living to be quite aged. The wife was like her husband a descendant of Scotch ancestry, and both were the offspring of old and substantial families.

It is believed that Samuel Kerr married a New Jersey lady. The name of his wife was Rhoda Bescherer, who was born in 1757, and was the daughter of John and Mary Bescherer, who are believed to have been of Scotch parentage. After a few years spent in New Jersey, Samuel Kerr with his wife emigrated to Washington County, Pa., where his death took place Dec. 31, 1829, when he was within a few days of his seventy-third year. He was a farmer by occupation and a Presbyterian, in religion. His wife died Nov. 16, 1819, at the age of sixty-two years and nine months. The Kerrs have always been distinguished for their splendid constitutions and great stature, and the subject of this sketch in this respect is quite equal to the accounts given of his ancestors.

To Samuel Kerr and his wife there were born eleven sons and one daughter, the greater part of whom lived to mature years and were married. Aaron, the father of our subject, was reared to farm pursuits and must have emigrated with his parents when a young man to Washington County, Pa., where he was married later to Miss Margaret, daughter of John and Margaret Nevin. Mr. and Mrs. Nevin were natives of Ireland, whence they came after their marriage to America, during the Colonial days. They located first in Washington County, Pa., and later removed to Beaver County, where they spent their last days and died when ripe in years. They belonged to the Seceders' Church, and were both possessed of stout and vigorous frames and more than ordinary intelligence.

Aaron Kerr after his marriage carried on farming in Washington County, Pa., and also manufactured earthenware, being very successful as a potter. In 1832, however, leaving the Keystone State, he took up his abode in Carroll County, Ohio, near the town of Carrollton, where he and his wife spent their last years, he dying Sept. 28, 1846, when a little past fifty years, of congestive fever. In religion he was an active Presbyterian and in politics a decided Democrat. The wife and mother survived her husband until April 2, 1861, dying at the age of sixty years and three months.

To Aaron Kerr and his estimable wife there were born the children recorded as follows: Samuel L., our subject, was the eldest of the family; John Jackson married Miss Cornelia Hutchinson, and both are now deceased; Sarah Jane became the wife of John Elder, who was killed by being thrown from a horse, and she was then married to William Scott, her first cousin. They live at Scio, Harrison Co., Ohio. Joseph Alexander took to wife Miss Carrie Grisell, and operates as a banker at Salem, Ohio; Margaret Ann became the wife of Mr. Uriah Coulson, an attorney and editor at Sullivan, Ind., and is now deceased; Aaron Wylie married a Miss Hebden, and is now deceased; his widow lives in Bloomington, Ill. George Nevin operates a flour and feed store at Cottonwood Falls, Kan.; Robert Harvey is married and farming near Richmond, Jefferson Co., Ohio; James McMillen married Miss Lizzie Young, and they are living at Cottonwood Falls, Kan.

The subject of this notice when ready to establish a home of his own was married at Bellaire, Ohio, near Wheeling, West Virginia, to Miss Caroline Hutchinson, who was born near Wheeling, where she was educated and reared to womanhood. Her parents were John W. and Maria (McConnell) Hutchinson, who were of American birth and parentage, and are both now deceased. Mr. Hutchinson at the time of his death had been for some time operating a woolen factory near Bellaire. His widow later moved to Grand View, Iowa, where she died of old age. Mrs. Kerr was one of the

eldest of a large family of children and received a good education, completing her studies in the college at Washington, Pa. She is a very intelligent and capable lady, and is the mother of eight children, two of whom died in infancy.

The Doctor and his family are Presbyterians in religion, and our subject politically is a reliable Democrat. He takes a lively interest in politics, has officiated as Mayor of El Paso and likewise as Alderman.

WILLIAM MEGINNES, who is numbered among the prominent and progressive farmers and extensive land owners of Greene Township, has long been identified with the history of this county, his residence dating from 1853, when he emigrated to the West and settled in Roanoke Township. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., five miles south of Chambersburg, in Franklin Township, April 22, 1827, and is the son of William and Catherine (Harmon) Meginnes. On his father's side he is descended from Irish ancestry, and on his mother's side the descent is traced in direct line to German ancestors, but for many generations his people had followed farming in the Keystone State. The scenes of his first recollections go back to his parents' home, where clustered around the fire-side was a family of nine children. That little band is now widely scattered, some having removed to distant States, while others have been called to their final home. All, however, reached manhood and womanhood, and the record is as follows: Rebecca became the wife of Peter Layman, and died at her home in Ohio in 1884, leaving three children; Catherine married Benjamin Hawes, and removed with her husband to Texas, where death occurred, leaving one child; John, who was married and had a family of seven children, resided in Knox County, Ohio, until his death in about 1867; Eliza is the wife of Simon Christine, of Worcester, Ohio, by whom she has nine children; Teena became the wife of James Butts, and resided in Knox County, Ohio, where three children were born unto them, but both parents are now deceased; Henry resides in Wichita, Kan.; William, of this sketch, is the next in order of birth; Daniel, a furniture dealer of Boulder, Col., and has two children; Mary is the wife of William Sporaman, a resident farmer of Morton County, Kan. The father of this family died Oct. 18, 1858, at the age of seventy-two years. His people were characterized by strong physical and mental powers, and were noted for longevity, many of them attaining to very advanced ages. His wife died in 1851, at the age of fifty-eight years.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until twenty years of age and was educated in the subscription schools. The lady who afterwards became his wife, attended the same school, and they were friends from early childhood. In 1847 he left home and began learning the plastering trade. During his three years of apprenticeship he worked for $2 a month. When his term had expired he began looking about him for some favorable location, and came to the conclusion that the West furnished better opportunities than were afforded by the older States in the East, so he left Pennsylvania and emigrated to Worcester, Wayne Co., Ohio, where he worked at his trade until the following fall.

In that autumn he returned to his old home, and was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Evey, daughter of Michael and Lydia (Meyers) Evey, who were natives of Franklin County, and of Irish and German descent, respectively. Their family numbered seven children—John, Fannie, Susan, Ellen, Michael, Nancy and David. The following spring after their wedding took place, Mr. Meginnes and his young bride removed to Huron, Ohio, where he engaged in plastering for two years. One child was there born to them, John, who died at the age of nine months. In October, 1855, they continued their westward journey and became residents of Woodford County, where they have since made their home. The expenses of the removal had about exhausted Mr. Meginnes' capital, and he began life in Illinois in very limited circumstances. He purchased forty acres of land in Roanoke Township, from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, the purchase price being $5 per acre, the whole amount to be paid within five years. That formed

the nucleus of his present extensive possessions, now amounting to more than 1,000 acres. It is divided into four farms, two of which he has himself improved, spending thousands of dollars for that purpose. His home farm is one of the very best in the county, his house is an elegant frame residence, barns and other outbuildings, which are models of convenience, have been erected, windmills have been put up, and the entire premises plainly indicate prosperity, and the careful supervision of an industrious and energetic owner. His other farms are also in keeping with the one on which he resides, and in Roanoke Township, where he formerly made his home, the dwelling was a large and beautiful brick house. He has endured the trials and hardships which come to those who settle in a new country, but notwithstanding the difficulties encountered, has made his life a successful one.

Since becoming residents of Woodford County the family circle of Mr. and Mrs. Meginnes has been increased by the birth of seven children—William, who died in infancy; Ella is the wife of Richard Bryant, who is engaged in operating the old homestead in Roanoke Township, and by her marriage has become the mother of five children, namely: Nannie Myrtle, Frank A., Charles E., Elbert R. and Iva May; Henry the next of the family, died at the age of twenty-one years; Lydia died when seven years of age; Nannie J. and William L. were twins, and the former is still with her parents, but William died in infancy; Charles, who completes the family, assists his father in the management of the farm.

Mr. Meginnes and his wife rank among the best citizens of the county, and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. He is a supporter of the Democratic party in politics, and for six years served as Clerk of the Township. The lady is a member of the German Baptist Church, and to her, in a great extent, is due the wealth which Mr. Meginnes possesses, for industry, frugality and able management of household affairs, has largely supplemented his own efforts. The thought comes to our minds when we look at the hale and hearty old pioneer, as he is surrounded by wealth and prosperity, that "It is better to wear out, than to rust out," not that he is by any means worn out, for his step is elastic as in youth, while his firm, clear voice, ruddy cheek and bright eye, bespeak a state of almost perfect health in a gentleman past sixty-two years of age. He is a man of brain, nerve and muscle. Promptness characterizes his work and dealings, and his very appearance indicates great energy and endurance. Few men in Woodford County are more widely known than William Meginnes, and this volume would be incomplete without the sketch of this worthy pioneer.

ED HODGSON. The name of this gentleman is familiar to a large portion of the residents of El Paso and vicinity, as one of the most successful breeders of fine horses in Woodford County. For the prosecution of this business he has large roomy stables, fitted up with every convenience, and keeps about sixty head of valuable equines, mostly of Norman blood and several imported directly from France. He has given the most of his attention to this industry since 1882, although he has been interested in horseflesh for the past twenty-five years.

Mr. Hodgson's beautiful home is situated at the head of Main Street, El Paso, and comprises a commodious and tasteful residence in the midst of a flourishing grove of large trees, with a wide pleasant lawn, picturesque walks, and the outbuildings, which complete the ideal modern home. It is a popular retreat for the many friends of Mr. Hodgson and his excellent wife, who occupy a high position in the social circles of their community.

Mr. Hodgson became largely interested in fine horses while living on his farm, two miles from El Paso, at the close of the war. He was one of the first men to introduce the Norman breed into Woodford County, and has exhibited some very choice stock at the State, St. Louis and New Orleans fairs, besides those nearer home, and as the result of this has realized from $6,000 to $8,000 in prizes. He left his farm in 1881, estab-

lishing himself at El Paso, and since that time has given his whole attention to his present business. In 1880 he assisted in the organization of the El Paso Agricultural Society, of which he was made President, which office he held for a period of six years, and is still a stock-holder and Director. The Society has freed itself from a $5.000 debt and has now a surplus in the treasury. Is the only one of its kind in the county.

Woodford County is largely indebted to Mr. Hodgson for her present reputation as a stock-breeding center, and there goes from out her borders each year a large number of choice draft animals. He has taken an active interest in everything affecting the welfare of the Prairie State, of which he is a native. He was born in Tazewell County, Jan. 1, 1844, and is the son of William Hodgson, a native of Ohio. The paternal grandfather, Amos Hodgson, was born in North Carolina and traced his ancestry to England. The first representatives of the family in America were Quakers in their religious belief, and among them was George Hodgson, who it is believed settled in Massachusetts. Later he or his descendants emigrated to North Carolina. Amos Hodgson took for his wife Miss Mary Barnett, and upon leaving the South they took up their abode in Wilmington, Ohio, whence they came later and about 1828 to this State. They settled in the wilderness of Tazewell County, on Government land, when their son William was a youth of about eighteen years, and there spent their last days. William after attaining his majority was married to Miss Phebe Bennett, a native of Ohio, and they began life on a new farm in Groveland Township, where they lived for the long period of fifty years; then retiring from active labor they removed to Pekin.

The subject of this sketch was the second child in a family of three sons and four daughters born to his parents, five of whom are married and have families of their own. He was educated in the common schools and served an apprenticeship in the stock business, working with his father who pursued the same occupation very successfully. He was first married in Tazewell County, to Miss Sarah Worley, who was born there and is a daughter of one of its pioneer settlers. She died at her home in Panola Township, this county, in 1872, at the early age of thirty-six years. She was a lady possessing all the Christian virtues and greatly beloved by her family and friends. Of this union there have been born eight children, four of whom died young, Minnie, Etta, Gertrude and Sarah. William E., a bright and promising young man, attended first the schools of El Paso, then entered Eureka College, and was one year at the Military Academy at Oxford, Md. Later he entered upon the study of law, which he has chosen for his future vocation; Lester E. also secured a good education and remains at home with his father and two younger brothers, Eugene M. and Charles W.

Our subject contracted a second marriage in 1881 at El Paso, with Miss Kate Gibson, a native of this county. She received a thorough education and careful home training. Her father, George Gibson, is retired from active labor and makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. Fleming. Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson are noted for their kindness and hospitality, and nothing pleases them better than to see their friends in their pleasant home, where they have every convenience for entertaining and have gathered around them all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. The father of our subject voted for the two Harrisons, and all the male members of the family have been supporters of the Republican party since its organization.

JACOB HELD, a wealthy retired farmer, residing in one of the pleasant homes of Washburn, was for many years a powerful factor in developing the agricultural interests of Linn Township, of which he was an early settler, and thus promoting the growth of Woodford County. He was for many years actively and profitably engaged in farming in that township, and is still the proprietor of a fine farm there, besides having valuable property in Washburn.

He was born in Baden, Germany, Sept. 24, 1823. His father, Conrad Held, and his ancestors as far back

as known, were natives and life-long residents of the same country. His father was a sober-minded, honest man of industrious habits, and comfortably supported his family by farming. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Mary Wolfe, and she also spent her entire life in Baden. There were five children born to her and her husband—Christian, Conrad, Jacob, Mary and John—all of whom came to America at different times, settled in Illinois, and all married and reared families, with the exception of Christian. The father owned a small farm in the old country, and it remained in the hands of the family till the death of the mother, eight years after the father's demise. On that our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, and he remained a citizen of the Fatherland till 1845, when he resolved, if possible, to better his prospects in life by emigration to the United States of America, where so many of his countrymen, with their simple, frugal, industrious habits, had been so greatly prospered. And in the month of August, that year, he set sail from Havre de Grace, with his brothers Conrad and John, and after a voyage of twenty-nine days landed safely in New York. They came directly to Illinois, by the way of the Hudson River to Albany, the Erie Canal to Buffalo, the lakes to Chicago, whence they took a team for Peru. The only capital that our subject possessed in all the world, was good health and willing hands, but he was not long in finding work, obtaining employment on the Illinois Canal at Peru. He remained there two weeks, and we next hear of him in Henry, Marshall County, where he and his brother Conrad, bought eighty acres of timber land for the sum of $150. It was located two miles from Henry, and on it was a log cabin, in which the brothers resided the ensuing three years, and our subject then sold his share of the place to his brother, and resumed working by the month for a time. He subsequently rented land in Marshall County, and was busily engaged in its cultivation till 1858, when he settled on his farm, the one that he still owns, he having previously bought 160 acres of wild land in Linn Township, and eighteen acres in Cazenovia. He had built a small frame house on the land, and had a few acres broken, which constituted all the improvements that had been attempted before his settlement on the place. In the busy years that followed, Mr. Held developed it into a valuable, highly productive farm, provided it with suitable buildings, and increased its area to 480 acres of choice land, which he has since reduced to 240 acres, having deeded to each of his three sons eighty acres apiece. In 1876 he came to Washburn, bought a neat little farm of eighteen acres of land adjoining the village, and has resided here since in one of the coziest and most comfortable of homes.

The first marriage of Mr. Held took place in 1850 to Miss Lucy Shugart, a native of De Witt County, Ill. Their wedded life was not destined to be of great length, for after they had been together fifteen years they were called upon to part, death removing the patient, devoted wife and mother from the scene of her labors in 1865. Five children had been born to them—Zion, John, Charles, Kate and Jennie. Our subject was married a second time, Miss Margaret Howell, a native of Pennsylvania, becoming his wife. Mrs. Held died Feb. 3, 1887, and Mr. Held contracted a third marriage, with Wilhelmine Benecke, March 5, 1889.

When our subject came to Woodford County, a quarter of a century or more had elapsed since the first settlement had been made within its borders, and civilization had made much progress; good farms had been opened, and several prosperous towns had sprung up, although much of the county was still in the hands of the pioneers. Especially was this true of that part of it included in Linn Township, and the country round about, which still presented to the eye of the beholder its primeval condition, the land being considered swampy and worthless for agricultural purposes. It remained for men of keen discrimination and shrewd, practical judgment, like our subject, to prove the contrary. That they have succeeded, perhaps far beyond their expectations, is attested by the many broad, rich farms of which this region can boast, the beautiful homes and busy villages that have been built up. Mr. Held may well take pride in the fact that he has had a hand in bringing about this great change. He has in every way proved himself a worthy and desirable citizen of any community. While a resident of Linn Township, he took a deep

interest in its social, moral, educational and material welfare. He served as Assessor of the township, and held the office of School Trustee many years, and in that capacity aided in securing the excellent facilities the children of the present day are afforded for obtaining a substantial education. In regard to National politics, our subject voted with the Democrats, but in local affairs he is independent, supporting the man, not the party. He is a faithful member of the Evangelical Associated Church, and in him his fellow-members find an efficient co-worker in their labors for the good of the community.

DR. JAMES M. FISHBURN. The dental profession of El Paso finds a most worthy representative in the subject of this notice, who has a well-equipped office, pleasantly located on Front street. After a thorough course of study he, in 1879, established himself in business, since which time he has been successful and is gaining an enviable reputation. He took a thorough course of study under the instruction of Dr. M. H. Patten, then a leading dentist of this place, and was given a diploma after a careful examination by the State Board. He has labored hard and earnestly and has become well known to the people throughout this part of the county as an accomplished practitioner.

The Doctor has been a resident of El Paso since his boyhood days, and a resident of Illinois most of the time since 1850. His father, Jacob Fishburn, upon coming to Illinois settled in the vicinity of Spring Bay, in the fall of 1850. Two years later he removed to the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell County, settling upon a farm, and in 1854 removed to a point three miles southeast of the present city of El Paso. There he improved a farm which he resided on some years, then took up his home in the city, the site of which he first approached with an ox team nearly forty years ago, and erected the first house in that vicinity. About that time the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad was being built through this section. After removing into El Paso, the father of our subject decided to go South and repaired to Little Rock, Ark., where he purchased a fine piece of property. He only lived there one year, however, then returned to this county, and died in El Paso, Feb. 13, 1877, at the age of seventy-three years. He was a prominent Democrat politically, and in religious matters a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The descendant of a fine old family, he was born in Franklin County, Pa., in 1804, and traced his ancestry to Holland. His father, Philip Fishburn, spent his last years in Pennsylvania.

Jacob Fishburn, the father of our subject, was reared a farmer and was married in his native county to Miss Mary Mahan. She likewise was a native of the Keystone State, and is still living, making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Hanna, widow of Harvey H. Hanna, late of El Paso. Although eighty-one years old she is still quite active and very intelligent. She has been connected with the Presbyterian Church for about fifty years. Her family consisted of five sons and four daughters, all but one of whom are living and married. The parents began their wedded life on a farm in Franklin County, Pa., where all these children were born, and they all came to Illinois with their parents in 1850.

Dr. Fishburn after leaving the common school attended the normal school, and subsequently entered the office of Dr. H. M. Patten, with whom he remained three years. He then began operating on his own account. He was married in El Paso, Sept. 1, 1881, to Miss Flora A. E. Sutton, a native of El Paso Township, and the daughter of Frank and Mary (Barfoot) Sutton, who are now residents of El Paso and retired from the active labors of life. Mrs. Fishburn was reared to womanhood under the parental roof, receiving a good education and followed the profession of a teacher before her marriage.

To the Doctor and his amiable wife there have been born two children, only one of whom is living, Nina. Garnet died at the age of two years and eleven months. The Doctor and Mrs. Fishburn belong to the Presbyterian Church, and our subject stands high in Masonic circles, being con-

nected with the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery, and is Treasurer in all four of these bodies. His political opinions are in sympathy with those of the Democratic party.

JACOB C. WICKLER, City Marshall of Minonk, was born in Richland County, Ohio, Oct. 21, 1837, and is a son of Peter and Barbara (Keller) Wickler, the former a native of Wurtemberg, and the latter of Darmstadt, Germany. His father was born in 1810, and when a young man of twenty-two years came with his parents, in 1832, to America. The family numbered seven children, three sons and four daughters—Jacob is now residing near Sandusky, Ohio; William makes his home in Peru, Ind.; Albertina is the wife of Jacob Myer, who is also a resident of Peru; Catherine became the wife of Christian Stroble, and died at her home in Peru in 1854; Mary, who wedded John Statler, died in Peru in 1852; and Mary, wife of Carl Frank, died in Cincinnati, Ohio. When the family emigrated to this country, they located in Richland County, Ohio, where the death of the father occurred, but his wife subsequently removed to Peru, Ind., where she departed this life.

In 1835, in Richland County, Ohio, Peter Wickler was joined in wedlock with Barbara Keller, and seven years later, in 1842, removed with his family to Indiana, settling in what was known as the Indian reserve, near Peru, where he engaged in farming during the remainder of his life. He passed away in 1872, his wife surviving until 1888, when she, too, was called home. The following children were born of their union: Jacob C., of this sketch, is the eldest; William, who served his country as a member of Company E, 87th Indiana regiment, was killed at the battle of Chickamaugua; Mary became the wife of Isaac Cochran, and resides with her husband in Peru, Ind.; George, who in 1861, enlisted in the 100-day service, and later re-enlisted for three years in an Indiana regiment, now makes his home in Arizona, where for the past twenty years he has been engaged in mining; Frederick is a farmer of St. Clair County, Ill.; Alexander died in Peru, Ind., in 1888; Eliza is the wife of Cyrus Crider, a resident of Peru; Frances wedded Frank Hinten, and died at her home near Peru; Katie died in 1882, unmarried.

Our subject was but five years of age when his parents removed to Indiana, and on the farm near Peru he was reared to manhood. Remaining under the parental roof until attaining his majority, he then left home, and at the age of twenty-two years began working at the carpenter's trade. In 1869, he came to Illinois, and for three years followed his chosen occupation in St. Clair County. In the meantime the South had declared war, and had taken up arms against the Government. He could no longer resist his patriotic impulses and on the 13th day of August, 1862, he enlisted, and was assigned to Company B, 111th Illinois Infantry, in which he served three years. He participated in all the engagements with his regiments, including the battles of Resaca, Dalton, Lookout Mountain, the Atlanta campaign and the battle at Jonesville, and thence marched with Sherman to the sea. Later, he was placed on detached duty, and by water went from Alexandria to New York City, where he took the train for Washington, D. C., where he was afterwards mustered out. During his entire term of service he was never wounded, taken prisoner, nor did he have to remain in the hospital a single day, but was always found at his post, faithful to duty.

On receiving his discharge, Mr. Wickler returned to his home in St. Clair County, where he again resumed work at his trade. After eighteen months he removed to Fayette County, Ill., where, in 1869, he was united in marriage with Miss Susan A. H. Kee, who was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1847, and is a daughter of John and Mary (Willett) Kee. The young couple began their domestic life in Fayette County, where Mr. Wickler engaged in carpentering and building until 1871, which year witnessed his arrival in Minonk. For ten years he worked at his trade, and being an expert workman, received a liberal patronage. In 1881, however, he was appointed City Marshal, which office he

still holds. From 1832 till 1886, he also served as Deputy Sheriff of Woodford County, for seven years was Constable, and for six years was Alderman of Minonk. His long continued service in each office to which his fellow-citizens have called him, testifies to his efficiency and the faithfulness and fidelity displayed in the performance of the various duties devolving upon him. Minonk could not have selected a more capable Marshal, for his course has fully justified the confidence reposed in him by his constituents. In politics he is a Republican, and a warm defender of the party principles. He does all in his power to promote its interests and insure its success, and is regarded as one of the leading followers of the party in Woodford County. Socially he is a member of Robert Morris Lodge, No. 247, A. F. & A. M., in which he holds the office of Senior Warden; and also belongs to L. G. Keedy Post. No. 160, G. A. R., of which he is Quartermaster. His public and private life alike are above reproach, having ever been such as to command the respect and confidence of all. He is cordial and genial in manner, and has a host of warm friends throughout the community.

By the union of Mr. Wickler and his estimable wife an interesting family of five children have been born—Mamie B., John A., Addie H., Jacob C., and Harry Raymond. All are bright, intelligent children, and Miss Mamie is a talented young lady, now engaged in teaching. She graduated from the high school of Minonk in the class of 1888, and has since followed that profession.

HENRY WILLARD PIERCE. Among the men who have been instrumental in promoting the business interests of Kappa, is the subject of this notice, who is conducting a thriving trade in agricultural implements and who is also the owner of a carefully cultivated farm not far from the town limits. He established himself here in business in 1885 and is building up a lucrative and steadily-growing patronage. Prior to this, from the time he was a child of four years he had been a resident of Palestine Township. He is a native of Illinois, having been born in Gridley Township, McLean County, June 21, 1858.

Our subject was the offspring of a substantial old family and the son of John B. Pierce, who, like his parents, was a native of New York State. The paternal grandfather, Willard Pierce, carried on farming there a number of years during his early life, then emigrated to Illinois and settled in Gridley Township, where he became well-to-do. Later in life, however, he crossed the Mississippi and established himself in Missouri, where he lived a number of years. Finally, returning to Illinois, he took up his abode at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Manning, of McLean County, and died in the fall of 1887 after having attained to more than four-score years. The wife and mother died in McLean County early in the sixties.

John B. Pierce lived in Northwestern New York, until a youth of sixteen years, then removed with his parents to Gridley Township, McLean Co., Ill., where he attained his majority. Not long afterward he was married in Woodford County, to Miss Margaret J. Shepherd. This lady was born in Virginia, and was the daughter of Henry and Anna (Logston) Shepherd, who had removed from the Old Dominion to Palestine Township, this county, early in the forties. They were thus among the pioneer settlers of this region at a time when their neighbors were few and far between, and when the country around them was nothing but an uncultivated waste for a number of years. They struggled successfully with the difficulties of life in a new settlement and succeeded in building up a comfortable homestead where they spent their last years, dying at a ripe old age. Their daughter, Mary J., was a child of six years when their family settled in Palestine Township, and there she developed into womanhood.

The parents of our subject after their marriage established themselves upon a farm in Palestine Township, remaining there until after the birth of two children—Henry W. and Caleb B. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil War the husband and father, in 1861, enlisted at Chicago, Ill., in Company B, 88th Illinois Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles which followed. In

September, 1864 he contracted a severe cold which settled upon his lungs and resulted in his death within a few days, and before his wife and children could know of his illness. His death took place in the hospital at Nashville, Tenn., while he was still a young man of only twenty-six years. The wife and mother was subsequently married to Anderson Van Scyoc of Palestine Township, and died March 28, 1882, at the age of forty-six years. Mr. Van Scyoc is still living there.

The subject of this sketch received a good practical education in the common school and worked at farming until ready to establish a home of his own. He was married in Ford County, Ill., May 1st, 1881, to Miss Phebe M. Ridgeway. This lady was born in New York State, May 1, 1863, and is the daughter of John H. and Lydia M. Ridgeway, with whom she came to Illinois in 1868. They located in Peoria County, where they lived for two years, then removed to Ford County, where the father improved a farm and remained until retiring from active labor. They then took up their abode in Chatsworth, Livingston County, where they still live.

Mrs. Pierce received her education in the district school, and under the careful training of her excellent mother became familiar with those duties which have so much influence in the happiness of a household. Of her union with our subject there have been born three children—John L., Bertha V. and Lester E. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce are prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, politically, is a sound Republican.

JOHN E. DODDS has been engaged in agricultural pursuits for several years on the old homestead where he was reared, in Cazenovia Township. He was also closely connected with the mercantile interests of Woodford County, for a period of twenty-five years, owning and successfully managing a store at Low Point, where he carried on quite an extensive trade. He is a son of a former highly respected pioneer of Woodford County, and although not a native, he was brought here when he was a mere child, and his growth has been identical with the growth of the county, and since attaining man's estate he has borne an honorable part in its development, and is considered one of its most worthy citizens.

Our subject was born near Dayton, Ohio, Dec. 21, 1832. His father, William Dodds, was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and was reared in his native State to agricultural pursuits. He went to Ohio when a young man, and cast his lot with the pioneers. He married in Montgomery County, and buying a tract of land six miles south of Dayton, engaged in farming till the fall of 1836. Accompanied by his wife and six children he then started on a voyage to Illinois, the journey being made by the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers. He landed at Lacon, and buying a farm on Crow Creek, Marshall County, resided there two years. At the expiration of that time he came to that part of Tazewell County, now included in Cazenovia Township, Woodford County. He invested in 250 acres of land on sections 27 and 28, on which stood a frame house in process of erection. About thirty acres of the land were under cultivation, and the rest was wild prairie and timber land. The old stage road from Chicago to Springfield passed by the house, and, although he did not advertise to keep a hotel, his dwelling became a favorite stopping place for travelers, and often times as many as could sleep on the floor were accommodated. He was appointed Postmaster and was the first one at Low Point, the office being in his house, and he served in that capacity several years. We may remark in this connection that his son John, our subject, was Deputy Postmaster under his father, and succeeded him as Postmaster, and held that office for a period of about twenty years, till 1885. The elder Dodds remained an honored resident of this township till his death, which occurred in September, 1872. The maiden name of his wife was Priscilla Ewing, and she was, it is thought, born in Ohio, and she died on the home farm in 1876. There were ten children born to that worthy couple, eight of whom grew up, namely: Elizabeth, wife of James Piper

now deceased; Elmira, wife of David Frazer; Joseph L., Robert, John E.; Mary, wife of William Ramsey, now dead; Ella, wife of William Stevenson, of whom see sketch.

The subject of this biography was in his fourth year when he came to this county with his parents, and he still remembers quite distinctly some of the incidents of the journey and of the pioneer life that they led after coming here in those early days When he was young, deer, wolves and other wild animals roamed over the prairies and through the forests along the streams, and the surrounding country was in quite a wild, sparsely settled concondition. There were no railways and the people used to haul their grain to Chicago, more than 100 miles away. Our subject attended the pioneer school, that was conducted in a log house, with seats made of slabs, with wooden pegs for legs and without backs, and wooden pins driven into the wall and a plank laid on these served as a writing desk. As soon as he was large enough Mr. Dodds began to assist his father in the farm work, and continued an inmate of the parental household till 1856. He then went to Livingston County, and began his carreer in the mercantile business in the town of Fairbury, where he remained four and one-half years. At the expiration of that time he returned to the home farm, of which he has since been a resident. He established a store at Low Point, previous to the building of the railway, and for twenty-five years conducted a profitable business there, building up quite an extensive trade. He also attended to his farming interests, keeping the farm up to the same high standard of cultivation that he had attained under his father's management, and with its well-ordered buildings and other substantial improvements it is a most desirable estate.

Mr. Dodds and Miss Mary Patton were united in marriage in January, 1856, and to them have been born twelve children—Alma, Minnie, Bessie, Tillie, Burdell, May, John, Fanny, Arthur, Theodore, Pearl, Zillah. Three of their children are married. Minnie is the wife of C. E. Boller, of Omaha; Burdell married Elmer Clingman, of Cazenovia, and they have one child—Grace; Alma married Charles Stevenson of Partridge Township, and they have four children—Loraine, Earl, May and John. Mrs. Dodds was born in Pennsylvania, and is the daughter of Caleb L. and Orpha Patton.

A man of superior intelligence and information, and of honorable repute, our subject enjoys a high standing in this community, where he is well liked by all. Possessing good business qualifications, he was formerly quite well off in this world's goods, but he has met with unavoidable financial disasters, and has lost some of his property, but he has retained that which is of more value to a man, his good name and credit. He has been a sound Republican since the formation of that party, and is an ardent advocate of prohibition. Mrs. Dodds is a true Christian, and a valued member of the Presbyterian Church.

LOUIS KURTZ, a prosperous boot and shoe merchant of El Paso, came to this place in 1870, and, with the exception of two years spent in Nebraska, it has since remained his residence. He was formerly in business with John Stock, whom he succeeded when establishing for himself in 1876. He learned his trade in Wurtemburg, Germany, where he was born Jan. 1, 1850.

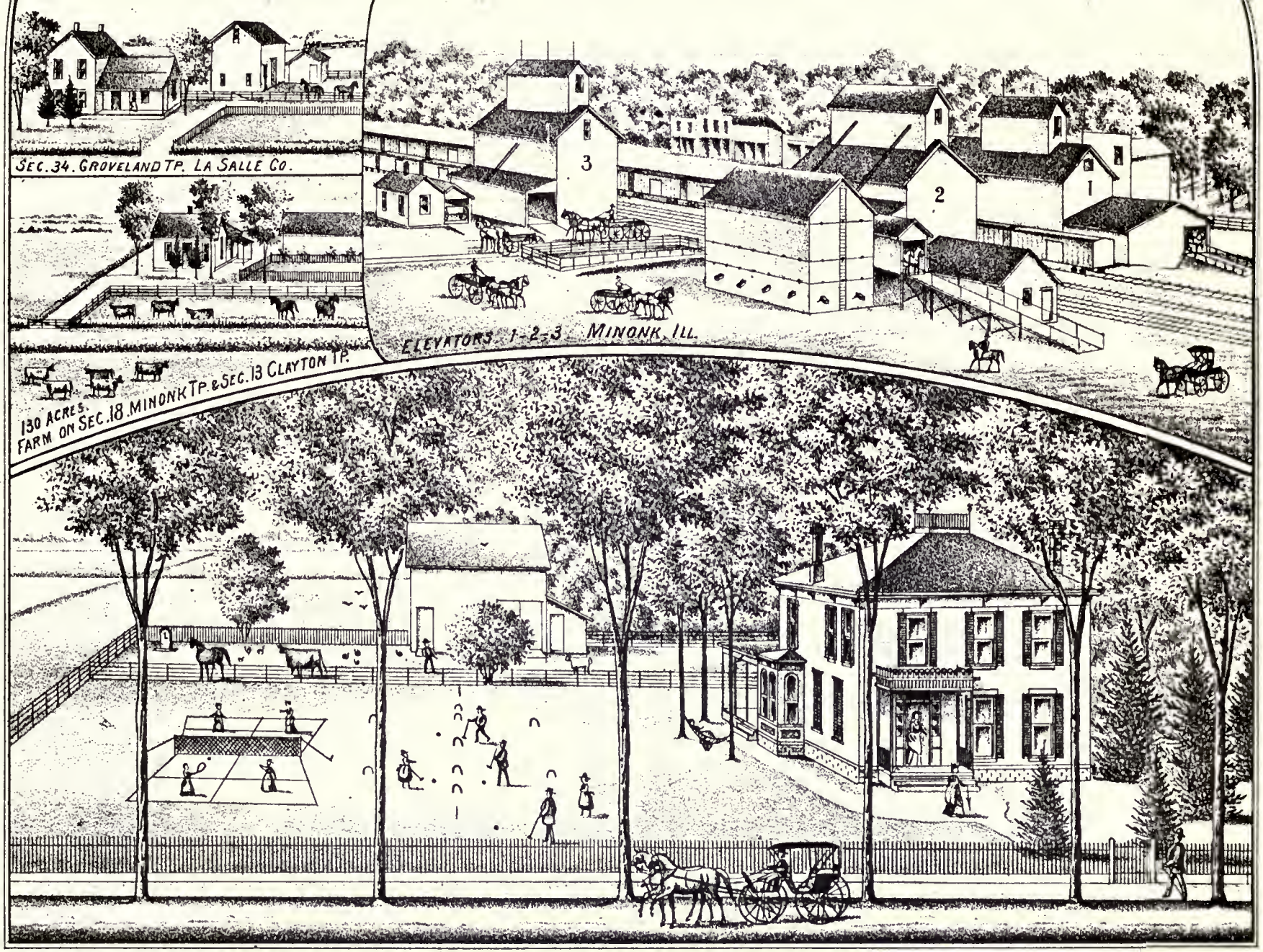
Our subject was reared and educated in Wurtemburg, spending his boyhood on his father's farm. The latter, George Kurtz, who was likewise born in Wurtemburg, spent his entire life upon his native soil, dying at about the age of fifty-six years. The mother, Mrs. Mary (Bond) Kurtz, was born and reared near the home of her husband, and was about his age at the time of her decease. Both were active members of the Lutheran Church. Their family included seven children, of whom our subject was the youngest. He has two brothers and a sister in America, one brother, Frederick, being a farmer in the vicinity of Galena, and his sister, Barbara Koppman, residing in Clayton, Tazewell County. Another brother, David, resides in Iowa, and is a minister of the Presbyterian Church.

In August, 1868, Mr. Kurtz set sail for America from the port of Bremen, and after a safe voyage

landed in New York City. Thence he came directly to Illinois, and after spending two years in different places, located in El Paso, where he has since lived, with the exception of the two years before mentioned. He was married in El Paso, to Miss Theresa Valentine, a native of Lexington, this State, and born Jan. 31, 1858. The parents of Mrs. Kurtz, Joseph and Sophia (Arnold) Valentine, were natives of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and came to America prior to their marriage, which took place in New York City soon after landing. They at once set out for Illinois, and located on a tract of land in El Paso Township, building up a good home, where they now live. Mrs. Kurtz was educated in McLean County, and came to this county with her parents. Three children have been born of her marriage with our subject—Willie J., Eddie F. and Annie Laurie. Mrs. Kurtz is a German Catholic in religion, and our subject, politically, affiliates with the Democratic party. He is recognized as a liberal-minded and public-spirited citizen, who gives his influence to all worthy enterprises, and is highly respected, both in business and social circles.

JAMES A. SIMPSON, a dealer in grain and seeds, is one of the leading business men of Minonk, and has taken a prominent part in its upbuilding. Besides attending to his mercantile interests he superintends the cultivation of two valuable farms of which he is proprietor. He is one of the great army of American citizens, who during the late Civil War, sprang to the defense of the stars and stripes, which but for their valor and patriotism would not now be waving over a free and undivided country. Only eighteen years old when the Rebellion broke out, our subject turned away from the comforts and attractions of his home, from dear friends, from the hopes and ambitions of youth, and, animated by an undying devotion to his country, and a willingness to sacrifice even life itself for the preservation of the Union, he unflinchingly faced the dangers and hardships of life on the battlefield, and won for himself an honorable record for true soldierly bearing, and for duty well and faithfully performed. The son of pioneer parents, our subject was brought when a boy, to this county, which had not then in any perceptible degree merged from its original wildness, and he has witnessed the greater part of its development; since returning from the South at the close of his term of service, he has aided in extending its business interests, and in advancing its financial prosperity.

Mr. Simpson was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, March 7, 1843, and is a son of Harrison and Maria (Combes) Simpson, natives, respectively, of Ohio and Virginia. The paternal grandfather of our subject came from Scotland, and located in Ohio in the early days of its settlement. His wife was a native of Pennsylvania, and of German parentage. The father of our subject grew to manhood in his native State, married there, and engaged in his calling as a farmer. In 1848 he emigrated with his family to Illinois, and became an early settler of Fulton County, where he remained until 1850, when he came to Linn Township, Woodford County. At the date of his settlement, this part of the county was one vast prairie, with scarcely a sign of cultivation, or trace of a habitation, it having been considered by earlier comers to be low, swampy, and altogether undesirable for farming purposes. But Mr. Simpson, with the foresight and sound judgment that marked his course throughout an active life, deemed it otherwise, plainly seeing its advantages and possibilities, and the valuable farm that he improved from the once despised land, proved his discrimination. He resided here many years, and put under a high state of cultivation and improvement, his homestead of 160 acres in Minonk Township, besides developing 320 acres of choice farming land in Livingston County. In 1868 he removed with his family to Minonk, and became the original stock-holder of the coal shaft of this place, a valuable piece of property. He subsequently became connected with the mercantile business as a member of the firm of Whitaker, Simpson & Son, proprietors of a general store. In 1876 he sold out his interest in the establishment for the purpose of engaging in the stock business in Texas, and he became the owner



RESIDENCE, ELEVATORS & FARM PROPERTY OF J. A. SIMPSON, MINONK, ILL.

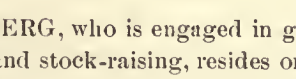
of a stock ranch in Terrell, Kaufman County, that State, and there his life was brought to a close Jan. 5, 1885. His wife survives him, and still makes her home on the Texas ranch. He was a man of an active temperament, and decisive character, and was full of enterprise and push. With the aid of a helpful wife and other members of his family, he accumulated a goodly amount of property. He was an active member of the Baptist Church, with which he became connected in 1850, at Canton, Fulton Co., Ill. We may remark in this connection, that he came to Fulton County from Ohio, in 1848, and lived there until his removal to Woodford County, in 1850. The eight children born to him and his wife, are still living: William H., residing on a farm near Terrell, Tex., is County Surveyor, of Rockwell County; James A., our subject; Ann C., wife of John Hopwood, of Nebraska Township, Livingston Co., Ill.; George M., a resident of Woodford County; Wolsey C., a lawyer in Emporia, Kan.; Benjamin F., a lawyer in Marinette, Wis.; Laura J., wife of E. B. Kipp, of Elliott, Iowa; Charles T., a resident of Terrell, Tex.

Our subject was but a small boy when the family first settled in Woodford County, and here he was reared on a farm, and received his education in the public schools. At the age of eighteen, in 1861, he enlisted with Company I, 47th Illinois Infantry, and served as a private three years and two months, taking an active part in all the engagements in which his regiment fought, the principal battles being the siege of Island No. 10, Farmington, Miss., New Madrid, siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Miss.; he and his comrades were with Gen. Banks, and afforded him efficient service in his Red River campaign. He was discharged with honor in October, 1864, in Springfield, Ill. During his military experience, although he suffered many of the hardships and trials of a soldier's life, he was so fortunate as to escape imprisonment in rebel prisons, but was disabled on one occasion, and obliged to be in a hospital during his last year of service.

After his experience of military life, Mr. Simpson returned to his old home in Woodford County, and commenced his career in the mercantile business as a clerk in a general store, and in 1868 was taken into partnership, the firm name being changed to Whitaker, Simpson & Son. Later it was changed to Simpson, Kidder & Co., and still later, to Simpson & Kidder, and so continued until the death of Mr. Kidder, when the business was sold out, and in July, 1887 Mr. Simpson established himself in his present business. He carries on an extensive and very profitable business, and besides owning three elevators in Minonk, that are generally worked to their full capacity, he has an interest in two other elevators at Woodford County, where he has quite a large trade. He also owns two farms of 290 acres, both well-improved, and has a charming home in Minonk, a view of which appears on another page, and which is supplied with all the modern conveniences for making life comfortable.

Mr. Simpson has been twice married. His first wife was Mary E. Bell, daughter of J. E. P. Bell, and a native of Marshall County. She died leaving two children, Helena B., and John H. The latter died in 1871, aged eight years. The maiden name of Mr. Simpson's present wife, was Mary B. Hudson. She is a native of Marshall County, and a daughter of John Hudson, of Fulton, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have three children—Mary E., James A., Jr., and Harrison H.

Mr. Simpson is prominently identified with the public interests of Minonk, as one of its most intelligent and trustworthy civic officials, he being a member of the City Council, and of the Board of Education. He is connected with the Masonic fraternity, and with the G. A. R. Religiously, he is of the Presbyterian faith, an influential member of the church, of which he is Ruling Elder, and is also Superintendent of the Sunday-school. Politically, he is devotedly attached to the principles of the Republican party.



L. N. BERG, who is engaged in general farming and stock-raising, resides on section 12, El Paso Township, and is numbered among the leading farmers of the community. He is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in

Ebensburg, Cambria County, July 5, 1850. His father, Peter Berg, was born in Hanover, Germany, and in the early days of his manhood crossed the broad ocean to America, settling in Cambria County, Pa., not far from the ill-fated city of Johnstown. In that county he formed the acquaintance of Miss Ann E. Berg, also a native of Hanover, Germany, and they were later united in marriage. Mrs. Berg came with her parents to America in childhood, the family locating in Somerset County, Pa., where the father and mother both passed the remainder of their lives. They lived to an advanced age and were ranked among the best citizens of the community.

By occupation, Peter Berg was a farmer and followed that business during the greater part of his life. After his marriage he settled on a farm near Ebensburg, Pa., and in connection with its cultivation owned and successfully operated a sawmill. During the early days of the history of this county, accompanied by his wife and eight children, four sons and four daughters, all of whom were born in Cambria County, he followed the course of emigration which was steadily drifting westward, landing in Woodford County in the month of March, 1868. Immediately after his arrival, he purchased a large tract of land and became one of the leading and prosperous farmers of the community, but in later life, he laid aside all business cares, removing to the city of El Paso, where he made his home until the spring of 1889. His loved wife with whom he had traveled life's journey for so many years, was then called to her final rest, at the age of sixty-eight years, and since her death he has resided with his son Frank, a farmer of Palestine Township, a portion of the time, the balance with other children. Mr. Berg is now seventy-six years of age. Religiously, he is a member of the Evangelical Association, to which body his wife also belonged, and in politics, he is a supporter of the Republican party.

The subject of this sketch received a good common school education in his native county, which was supplemented by attendance at Northwestern College, Napersville, Ill., where the days of his boyhood and youth were passed. He was married in New Philadelphia, Ohio, to Miss Kate Chapman, the wedding taking place Sept. 12, 1877. The lady is a daughter of the late Dr. R. C. Chapman, who for thirty years was a prominent practicing physician of New Comerstown, Ohio, and died at his home in that city, March 29, 1876, at the age of fifty-six years. He was born in Washington County, Pa., in 1819, and is a son of Richard Chapman, who was also a native of the Keystone State, born of Irish parentage. He was married in Hickory, Pa., to Miss Kate Updegraff, and resided upon a farm in his native State until his death which occurred in 1863, at the age of sixty-seven years. His widow afterwards became a resident of New Comerstown, Ohio, and died very suddenly at her home in that city on Christmas Day of 1867, in the sixty-sixth year of her age. Both Mr. Chapman and his wife were members of the Christian Church.

Dr. Chapman, son of that worthy couple, was reared to manhood in his native State, and received a thorough medical education. When his studies were completed, he established practice in Ohio and finally located in Tuscarawas County. He rapidly rose in his profession and gained a position of prominence excelled by no physician in the community. He was married when but nineteen years of age, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary McDonald. The wedding was celebrated in Belmont County, Ohio, but the death of Mrs. Chapman occurred in Tuscarawas County about 1856 of consumption, when twenty-nine years of age. She left a family of three children to mourn her loss, namely: Mrs. Berg, wife of our subject; Mary E., wife of Thomas Brown, a resident farmer of Tuscarawas County, Ohio; and Dr. A. L. Chapman, a leading physician of Bloomington, Ill., who was graduated from the Medical School of Cincinnati. The second union of Dr. Chapman was with Mary Watson, who was born in Washington County, Pa., and removed with her parents to the Buckeye State. She yet survives her husband and resides with her son John in Ohio. The other child born of her marriage is Mrs. Agnes Shannon.

Mrs. Berg was educated in New Comerstown, Ohio, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. She is a lady of high social attainments and is a member of the Christian Church,

with which denomination she united at the age of fourteen years. No children have been born to this worthy couple, but they have one adopted daughter, Fannie.

Mr. Berg is numbered among the successful and enterprising farmers of El Paso Township. He first came to the county in 1868, and settled in Palestine Township, where he made his home until his removal to McLean County. For two years he engaged in farming in Gridley Township, that county, returning to Woodford County in 1883, since which time he has resided upon his present farm. He purchased eighty acres of land on section 12, El Paso Township, and now has the entire amount under a high state of cultivation. The many improvements are all that are necessary to a model farm and his pleasant home with its entire surroundings indicates thrift and refinement. As a citizen, Mr. Berg is public spirited and progressive, and as a friend and neighbor is greatly respected by all who know him. He is well worthy of representation in this volume, and it is with pleasure that we record his sketch. Politically, he is a Democrat.

JOHN EGE. Too much praise cannot be given to the self-made man, to him who by his own energetic efforts carves out the path of life for his feet to tread, and then by force of will compels circumstances to blend with his desires. Many such people reside in this county, and to none is more credit due than to John Ege, the subject of this biographical review. He was born, seemingly, to be one of the struggling masses, who toil for a life time, and then have scarcely enough to protect their old age from want. But although a child of poverty, nobly has he risen out of his lowly surroundings, and has placed himself and his family in the midst of affluence and luxury.

John Ege was a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, born April 12, 1826. His early education was a very limited one, and that was soon brought to a close. He was bound out to a cabinetmaker, where he learned his trade. One advantage of many foreign countries over our own is that they compel their young men to learn a trade, and thus provide them for the future, and prohibit indolence. Our subject followed his trade for many years. But all the time stories of the wonderful land across the wide Atlantic were brought to his ears, and friends wrote descriptions of the rapidity with which great fortunes were made, and the liberties of the people. John Ege was penniless when he crossed the ocean, but he did not long remain so. He proved the truth of the saying, "There is always room at the top." In 1846 he came to this country, and began almost immediately to work at his trade in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., where he remained until 1849, then came to Peoria, and in 1851 he came to Spring Bay.

Our subject was very fortunate in the selection of a helpmate, his wife being in her youth Miss Margaret Stanter, with whom he was united in marriage Jan. 6, 1850. Her parents had emigrated to America from their ancestral home in Bavaria, but they are both now deceased. Out of a large family of seven children, only three remain to the present time. They are Hannah, Carrie and Emily. Hannah united her fortunes with those of Joseph Belsley, formerly of this county, but now a resident of Peoria, where he is in business as an ice-dealer. There have been born to them two children. Carrie became the wife of August Ohlman, a resident farmer of this county, and they have four children. Emily remains at home.

Between the years 1860 and 1876 Mr. Ege engaged in the lumber business, and was owner of a large lumber yard. In 1870 he purchased a farm of 175 acres of well-improved land, and upon this he made many improvements, so that it has been a source of considerable revenue to him.

Mr. Ege and his family now reside in Spring Bay, where they are a considerable addition to the social circles of that city. They are members in good standing of the Reformed Lutheran Church. Mr. Ege is a member of the Masonic Lodge, No. 335, Peoria, Ill., and also of the United Order of Druids of Illinois, No. 6. In politics he is a strong Democrat, and has the confidence of the people,

who have shown the trust they repose in him by electing him to the office of Supervisor for the long period of fourteen years, and they have also retained him as Justice of the Peace for twenty-two years. He has filled the offices of Assessor and Town Clerk. Thus in a small way the residents of the county display their respect and interest in one of its ablest and most influential citizens.

RUDOLPH HARSEIM, who is engaged in farming and stock-raising on section 6, Palestine Township, is of German birth. He was born in the province of Saxony, Prussia, on the 8th day of May, 1830, and is descended from a respected family of that kingdom. His father, August Harsei,m was also born in Saxony, and in early life learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for many years. He served his country as a soldier for a number of years, and was married in his native province to Ann Kline, who proved a true helpmate to him. They became the parents of three children, sons, who lived to maturity —Andrew, who is now engaged in farming near Spring Valley, Putnam Co., Ill.; Rudolph, of this sketch; and Gotfried, a furniture dealer of Secor, and one of its prominent business men. Accompanied by his family, Mr. Harseim crossed the broad Atlantic to America, landing in New Orleans, whence he came up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to New Albany, Ind., where he located. He died in that city about five days later, when forty-eight years of age. His wife, who survived him many years, afterwards became a resident of Mendota, La Salle County, where her death occurred in 1874, at the ripe old age of seventy-four years. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church.

The subject of this sketch spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native land, and received his education in its schools. For three years, from 1848 to 1851, he served in the great rebellion which occurred in Germany. In his youth he also learned the carpenter's trade, which business he followed for a number of years. On the emigration of the family to America, he accompanied his parents and remained with them one year after his arrival. Having attained his majority, he left home and engaged in business as a carpenter in La Salle County, Ill. Some time later, he made a trip to Minnesota, where he entered land, and then returned to La Salle County, where he made his home until becoming a resident of Secor. In that county Mr. Harseim formed the acquaintance of Miss Kate Kirehner, and their friendship ripening into love, they were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. The lady was born in Hessen, Germany, in 1836, and is a daughter of George and Helena Kirchner, who were also natives of the same province. On the emigration of the family to America, they located in La Salle County, where the death of the mother occurred at the age of seventy-five years. Mr. Kirchner is still living at the advanced age of four-score years, making his home with his son, George L., in McLean County. He is a member of the Omish Mennonite Church, and his wife was also a follower of that faith.

Mrs. Harseim preceded her parents to America, coming with her brother Peter five years previous. She resided with her people in La Salle County, until uniting her destiny with that of Mr. Harseim. Fourteen children have been born unto them, twelve of whom are yet living—Robert, who married Jane Schafer, is the owner of an extensive overalls manufactory in Indianapolis, Ind.; Lena is the wife of Charles Schmidt, an employe in the watch factory of Peoria; Emil J. succeeded his father in the mercantile business in Secor; Carrie is the wife of Robert Kirschke, who is engaged in general merchandising in Cayuga, Ill.; Emma, who was a student in the Business College of Peoria, is at home; Sarah wedded Earl F. French, and resides in Peoria with her husband, who is engaged in the watch factory at that city; Isabella and Bertha are still with their parents; Adolph is pursuing a course of study in the Peoria Business College; Gustus, Amelia and Clara are at home.

Mr. Harseim has been a resident of Woodford County since 1861, and is one of its leading citizens. For a number of years he was a prominent business man of Secor, where he made his home until 1885. On his arrival, he opened a small mer-

chandise store in that town, and from the beginning his trade constantly increased. He was soon compelled to enlarge his stock, and in 1872, finding that he had insufficient room for his goods, erected a large store building, 22x75 feet. It was built of brick, and on its completion he at once began business at his new stand. His trade rapidly increased and he became one of the leading merchants of the town. He possesses the necessary energy and ability essential to success, is fair and honest in all his dealings, and well deserved the liberal patronage which he received. At length, in 1885, he resolved to engage in some less arduous business and sold his store and stock to his son He then purchased 100 acres of valuable land on section 6, Palestine Township, and has since followed farming. He also owns 160 acres in Roanoke Township, Woodford County. His home is pleasantly and conveniently situated near the corporation limits of Secor, and is one of the finest farms in the county. Since his purchase he has greatly improved and beautified it, and the entire surroundings indicate thrift and refinement. Aside from his business, Mr. Harseim has found time to devote to public interests, and at this writing holds the office of President of the Town Board. In politics, he usually supports the Democratic party, but is not strictly partisan. Himself and wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and are held in the highest regard by all who know them. Mr. Harseim is a representative and valued citizen, and it is with pleasure we record this sketch.

MRS. ELIZABETH (RICHARDS) PARKIN has a beautiful home on the old homestead that her father, a prosperous pioneer of Woodford County, reclaimed from the wild prairies of Linn Township in the early days of its settlement, whereon she was reared, and which, since the death of her husband, she has managed with great skill, displaying sound judgment and good business capacity. Mrs. Parkin is a native of this county, born in Cazenovia Township in the month of December, 1849. Her father, Thomas Richards, was born in Devonshire, England, Feb. 14, 1814, and passed the early years of his life in his native land until 1842. In that year, a strong and vigorous young man, his only capital his bodily and mental endowments, he set forth for the new world, accompanied by his young wife and their little child, to see what life held for him in America. When he landed a few cents comprised his wealth, and settling first in Canada, he resided there a year, and in the meantime earned money enough to pay his way to the "States." After coming here he worked about for a time, and carefully saving his earnings, was finally enabled to enter a tract of Government land in Linn Township, and in 1852 located on it, and thus became one of the first settlers here. But few had preceded him to this region, and the county itself was but thinly inhabited. Deer and other wild animals roamed at will over the prairies, and through the timber, and there were not many signs of the wealth and prosperity that obtains to-day in this section of the country. After the railways penetrated the State there were none nearer than Minonk, for some years, and Mr. Richards was obliged to do his marketing in the distant town of Lacon. He contributed his quota toward the upbuilding of Linn Township, of which he was a resident until his removal by death, in February, 1888. He was a practical, experienced farmer, who managed his affairs judiciously, and accumulated a goodly property. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Peard, and she like himself was a native of Devonshire, and closed her life in this country, dying in 1852. Two of their children are now living: Meloria, wife of William Beal, of Minonk Township; and Mrs. Parkin.

The latter, of whom we write, received her education in the public schools of Linn Township, and continued to live with her father until her marriage, in March, 1875, to Robert Parkin.

Mr. Parkin was of English birth and parentage, and was a son of James and Susan (Rich) Parkin, who emigrated to America with their family. They first settled in Tazewell County, but a few years later they came to Woodford County, and bought a farm near Benson, and there the mother died in

the year 1878. The father then went to live with his son, surviving his wife only ten years, and at the expiration of that time he too passed away. The husband of our subject was but seven years old when his parents brought him to the United States, and he was reared and educated mostly in this county. When he arrived at years of discretion, he chose the calling of a farmer as the one best adapted to his tastes, and for which he had a natural aptitude, and at the time of his marriage he settled on the Richards homestead, where his wife had been bred, and which she owns and occupies at the present time. In this pleasant home his happy wedded life with our subject was blessed to them by the birth of two children, Myrtle and Thomas Dilman. And here his earthly career was cut short by the hand of death Feb. 5, 1888. The loss of such a man, at once tender, upright and true, considerate in his dealings with others, a kind, devoted husband and father, a wise, practical member of the farming community, a useful citizen, was a severe blow to the interests, social and material of the township. But he whose memory is cherished, as is his, in the hearts of those who loved him, needs no further eulogy.

ARTHUR R. WARREN, proprietor and editor of the Minonk *News*, one of the best journals published in this part of the State, is one of the most distinguished members of the editorial profession in Woodford County. He was born in County Cavan, Ireland, Sept. 15, 1839, a son of John and Harriet Warren. His father was a watch and clock maker, and died in his native Ireland in 1842, ere he had reached life's prime. The mother of our subject first came to America with her family in 1846, and spent the ensuing twelve years in Canada. In 1858 she returned to Ireland to look after some property, and remained there until 1866, when she returned to this country and took up her residence in New York City, where she died in 1872. Our subject is the youngest of the family and the only survivor. He had one brother, who was in the English army and served in India. Another brother was a farmer in Canada. Our subject was but a young boy when he accompanied his mother across the ocean the first time, leaving his early home just previous to the famine that devastated the beautiful island of his birth. When he was old enough, he served an apprenticeship of four years in Pictou, in the province of Ontario, to learn the printer's trade. At the expiration of that time, having gained a thorough mastery of the "art preservative," he worked as a journeyman in Kingston and Toronto. In 1858 he returned to his native land with his mother, and the money that he had prudently saved he spent during his stay in Ireland. He followed his trade in Dublin, working in the printing office of Trinity College, which is one of the most noted printing establishments in the world, and while there he became familiar with no less than six languages. In 1866 he and his mother returned to this country and made their home in New York City. He worked in various printing-offices in that metropolis until 1872, when he and others went into business on their own account on Broadway, and so continued about two years. After that our subject was connected with various publishing houses as a printer, and for five years had full charge of one of the largest book and job printing-offices in the city, that of D. H. Gildersleeve. In 1882 he was obliged to abandon a lucrative position, as on account of his wife's ill-health he was anxious to try a change of climate for her benefit, so he came here and purchased the Minonk *News*, of which he has since been the editor and publisher. The *News* was founded in 1878 by S. C. Bruce. It is an eight-page, six-column sheet, independent in politics, and exerts a beneficial influence wherever it circulates.

In 1876 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Isabella Grogan, and in their attractive home seven children complete the household circle—John, Arthur, Maud, Ida, Ethel, Edna H., Luey. Mrs. Warren is a native of New York City, a daughter of Robert and Eliza Grogan, both now living, with several of their daughters, in Bloomington, Ill.

Mr. Warren is a gentleman of culture, of wide

and varied experience, and as a keen observer of men and events, well-versed in the art of journalism, he makes his paper the medium of much valuable information, and through its columns supports all public measures that are in any way beneficial to the town or county. He is Republican in his political views, yet moderate in their expression, and avoids using his paper for a party machine, opening its columns to free discussion by all parties, and giving each one a fair showing, of whatever party or political belief. He cast his first Presidential vote for Horace Greely in 1872. Religiously, he and his wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

PROSPER H. DAVISON, County Treasurer of Woodford County, Ill., now residing in Metamora, is numbered among its most prominent citizens. He is eminently a man of affairs, combining sagacity and foresight with exceptional financial talent, true tact, fine courtesy, and an honest, upright manliness, which traits of character have preserved his reputation unsullied through an honorable public career. Our subject is an extensive land-owner, having a large tract of 580 acres of fine, well-improved farm and pasture land in Clayton Township, where he was formerly engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Davison was born in Grafton, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., Aug. 25, 1833. His father, John M. Davison, was a native of the same town, a son of Ezra Davison, who was born in Connecticut, of Scotch ancestry. He moved from that New England State to Rensselaer County in pioneer days, and was an early settler of Grafton, where he bought a tract of timbered land, which he improved into a farm, continuing to make his home there till death. The maiden name of his wife was Diadama Smith, and she was a native of Vermont. Our subject's father was reared in his native town to the calling of a farmer, and always followed that pursuit, continuing a resident of Grafton till 1855, when he came to Illinois with his family. He purchased a quarter section of wild land in Clayton Township, and became one of its earliest settlers, there being but three families located there at the time. He erected suitable buildings and was successfully engaged in tilling the soil on his homestead many years; but he is now living in honorable retirement, making his home with our subject. The wife, who for more than fifty years had walked by his side, faithfully and cheerfully sharing with him the heat and burden of the day, was taken from this life May 27, 1885, and is now a blessed memory to him and their children and grandchildren. Her maiden name was Sally Parks, and she was born in Grafton, N.Y., a daughter of Jonas Parks, a native of Connecticut. Her father, Rufus Parks, great-grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolution, having entered the army as a fifer, when sixteen years of age. He was present at the battle of Bunker's Hill and afterward served under Gen. Washington till the close of the war, when he was mustered out of service as fife-major. He spent his last years in Grafton. The maternal grandfather of our subject was one of the pioneers of that town and improved a farm there, on which he spent the remainder of his life. The maiden name of his wife was Elsie Scriven.

Our subject is one of two children born to his parents. His sister Elsie L. married Jacob McChesney, and resides in Clayton Township. He of whom we write was reared in his native county, receiving a substantial education in the public schools, and being an only son remained at home with his parents, accompanying them to Illinois and living with them here a few years. He assisted his father in building a cabin for a temporary shelter, and in 1856 they erected a more commodious dwelling. Our subject continued to reside in Clayton Township till 1887, and during that time had been so prospered in his agricultural pursuits as to have accumulated a handsome property, including the 580 acres of fine farming land before mentioned. In 1887 he removed to Eureka, where he lived till 1889, when on account of his official duties he took up his residence at Metamora.

Sept. 2, 1854, Mr. Davison and Miss Jane C.

File were united in marriage, and to them have come six children: Franc D., now the wife of Harrison Kerrick, who resides near Shirley, McLean County; William S., J. Morgan, Paul H., Elsie J. and Bertha. Mrs. Davison is, like her husband, a native of Rensselaer County, N.Y., the town of Brunswick her birthplace, and she is a daughter of John M. and Rebecca (Lohnez) File.

Mr. and Mrs. Davison are people who command the respect of all with whom they are associated, and they have a large circle of warm friends both in this city and their old home. They are among the leading members of the Baptist Church, and cordially sympathize with all movements looking toward the social and moral elevation of the community besides giving more substantial aid. As a patriotic citizen should be, Mr. Davison is earnestly interested in the welfare of his country, and as he firmly believes the Democratic policy the best one to be pursued in the guidance of national affairs, he gives his allegiance to that party, having cast his first vote for James Buchanan for President. His fellow-citizens long ago recognized his superior fitness for public office, and he has faithfully served Clayton Township as Treasurer for more than twenty years and has also been a member of the County Board of Supervisors, and he was elected to his present responsible office as County Treasurer in 1886. Fraternally he is a member of Minonk Lodge, No. 927, I.O.O.F., and Eureka Lodge.

C W. RUSSELL, who is engaged in general farming on section 7, Palestine Township, is numbered among the leading and respected citizens of the community in which he resides. He is one of the early settlers of the county, dating his residence from 1855. He is a native of Indiana, his birth having occurred near New Albany, Floyd County, on the 27th day of July, 1825. His parents, Charles and Margaret (Williams) Russell, were natives of North Carolina. In that State they were reared and married, and for some years there made their home, Mr. Russell engaging in farming. Desiring to better their condition, they later removed to Indiana, settling in Floyd County, where the death of the mother occurred Jan. 12, 1852, at the age of seventy years, her birth having occurred Oct. 7, 1782. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was greatly beloved for her many excellencies of character. After the death of his beloved wife, Mr. Russell came with his son to Woodford County, Ill., spending his declining years in Palestine Township, where he died in 1860. He was born Jan. 26, 1782, and was also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His life was one of industry and toil, and honesty and fair dealing marked his intercourse with his fellow-men, he thus securing the confidence and high regard of all with whom he came in contact.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood upon his father's farm, and in the schools of his native county received his education. His advantages in that direction, however, were somewhat limited, as he was only permitted to attend school during the winter, having to assist his father in the cultivation of his land in the summer season. He remained under the parental roof until 1849, when he led to the marriage altar Miss Isabella Hancock, the ceremony being performed on the 3d day of May of that year. Mrs. Russell was born in Floyd County, on the bank of the Ohio River, Nov. 14, 1830, and is a daughter of James and Nancy M. (Nance) Hancock. Her parents were natives of the sunny South, but during the early days of the history of Floyd County settled in Indiana. The death of the mother occurred in that county, and Mr. Hancock died near Petersburg, when quite advanced in years. He was a man of sterling worth and strict integrity, and though he never united with any church, both his public and private life were above reproach.

Mrs. Russell was but a child of two years when the death of her mother occurred. Her girlhood days were spent in Indiana, and in that State she became the wife of our subject. A family of ten children have been born unto them, eight of whom are yet living—La Fayette A., James H., William H., Maria A., Nancy M., Holly, Charles L. and

Isabel. John M. and Lucinda are both deceased. Several of the family have been married, and left the parental roof for homes of their own.

In 1855, when Woodford County was but sparsely settled, Mr. and Mrs. Russell came to Illinois. One year after their arrival they purchased a farm on section 7, Palestine Township, where they have since made their home. Their landed possessions aggregate 110 acres, seventy of which is comprised in the home farm, the remaining forty, which is also situated in Palestine Township, being timber land. Throughout his entire life Mr. Russell has engaged in agricultural pursuits, and his land is highly cultivated and improved. He is industrious and energetic, and by his own efforts has acquired a comfortable competency. He feels a deep interest in public affairs, is a representative citizen, and in politics affiliates with the Democratic party. His wife is a member of the Christian Church. They are highly respected people, and have many warm friends in the community where they have so long made their home, and of whose growth and progress they have been witnesses for more than a third of a century.

REV. MICHAEL ZIMMERMANN, one of the most prosperous and best known German farmers of Montgomery Township, has been a citizen of this county since January, 1849. His present estate consists of 490 acres of land, which is divided into three different farms, each one being well supplied with water, a good residence and other farm buildings, and nearly all of the land is under a good state of cultivation. His first purchase consisted of 100 acres, which was only slightly improved, and its present fine condition is owing to his industry, energy, and business management. Besides abundance of good water and grass land, fitted to support fine stock, he has also an abundance of timber, which supplies shade and lumber for all necessary buildings. Mr. Zimmermann came to Illinois in February, 1848, and rented a small place south of Washington, in Tazewell County, for one year. But in the succeeding autumn of the same year he gave it up, and removed to Montgomery Township, this county, to the place where he now resides. Before coming to this State, he had resided in Ohio, spending nine years of his life in Butler County, that State.

Our subject was born in Germany, Sept. 27, 1820, in the State of Baden. His father, Andrew Zimmermann, was also a native of Baden, where he was born in 1793, and two years after coming to America, he departed this life at his home in Butler County, Ohio, Jan. 13, 1841. Andrew Zimmermann was left an orphan in his early youth, but friends took care of the child, and reared him carefully, teaching him scientific farming, as followed by the Germans of those days. When able to provide for a family he married Miss Fannie Miller, a native of Baden, and member of a good German family. The fruit of this union was five children, four sons and one daughter. Being constantly in receipt of news from America, and learning from friends how much more profitably farming could be carried on in the United States than in their native country, they made up their minds to emigrate. So with their five children they set out on their journey to the New World. At Havre they embarked in a sailing-vessel bound for New York City, where they landed after a fairly prosperous voyage of thirty-one days on the good ship "Ronly." In order to secure means to pay their passage and incidental expenses, they were obliged to borrow money, which amounted to some $365, and to pay this debt, it was necessary for them all to work, as soon as located where work became possible and profitable. Being honest, industrious and economical, and providentially blessed with health and strength, although the times were very hard, they succeeded to their great gratification, in paying off every cent of this, to them, large debt. The death of Mr. Zimmermann two years after locating in Butler County, Ohio, left the mother and five children still poor, but out of debt and with some comforts and conveniences gathered around them, and able to face the world with cheerful courage.

Our subject, who was the eldest of the family, was at the time of his father's decease, twenty-one years of age, and, being well seconded by the

younger children, was of great help to his mother, who was a woman fully capable of managing the business affairs connected with the farm. Between them they secured enough money to emigrate to the land of promise, which was in those days synonymous with the State of Illinois. Our subject also took with him to the new home a wife, who was a lady well-fitted for the duties and trials of pioneer days. Their journey was not made in the usual style of wagons and horses, but was performed by taking the longer but more comfortable water route, which embraced a trip to Cincinnati, thence on the Ohio to St. Louis, then up the Illinois River to Peoria, where they left the water, and made the rest of the journey with teams.

Mr. Zimmermann with true filial regard took especial care of his mother from the time of his marriage, and when he had secured a home of his own in Illinois, he and his excellent wife apportioned the most comfortable place for her use, which she retained until called upon to leave the scene of life's changes, and meet her husband in the other world. Her death in 1850, at the age of fifty-five years, left a chair vacant in Michael Zimmermann's home, but the memory of grandma will ever be cherished by her loving children and their little ones. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Zimmermann were both carefully educated in the Mennonite Church, and were faithful to their early training in life and death. Mr. Andrew Zimmermann had occupied the place of pastor in that church, and was widely known among the members of that denomination as an intelligent, upright man, and a kind, affectionate husband and father.

Our subject was well educated in Germany, being especially fluent in his native language, and the mental discipline he acquired in his thorough, severe course of studies during his attendance in the German schools, made him an apt scholar, when it became necessary for him to acquire knowledge of the English language. Mrs. Zimmermann, whose maiden name was Catherine Naffzinger, opened her infant eyes on board a vessel bound for America. The parents, Peter and Barbara (Beck) Naffzinger, had left their home in the Rhine Province of Byron, and embarked in 1826 on a sailing-vessel, and after escaping all the dangers of the mighty deep, were safely landed at their destination, Philadelphia, Pa. Although the original intention of Mr. and Mrs. Naffzinger had been to go to Canada, they were so much pleased with the city of Philadelphia, that they concluded to remain there, but after residing there sometime, they were induced to go to Butler County, Ohio, in which place they located and remained several years, prospering fairly well. But in 1844, hearing glowing accounts of the fortunes to be made in Illinois, they concluded to sell out, and remove to the newer country. They first located at Spring Bay, this county, making their home with an elder son who had preceded them. The mother of Mrs. Zimmermann bade farewell to the scenes of life, at the home of a younger son in Tazewell County, Ill., having lived five years over the allotted three-score years and ten. Mr. Naffzinger survived for a number of years, and at length departed from his earthly tenement, at the home of his son, Peter, in Montgomery Township, being nearly ninety-seven years old. They were worthy members of the Mennonite Church during life, Mr. Naffzinger holding the office of an Elder.

Mrs. Catherine Zimmermann came to Butler County, Ohio, when a mere child, and was reared and educated in that place, learning not only what books could teach, but also receiving a good practical training in domestic life and farm work. She has been of great assistance to her husband in making and improving their home, and has become the mother of twelve children, three of whom are deceased, namely: Catherine, who died when three years old; Elizabeth died when about two years old; and Jacob, who lived to be a fine lad of thirteen years. Those surviving are: Anna, wife of John Witzig, a farmer residing on the line between Livingston and McLean counties; Barbara is the wife of John Ramseyer, a farmer living in Montgomery Township; John married a lady named Miss Catherine Schrock, and makes his home on a farm in Kansas Township; Lydia is the wife of Abraham Ringerberger, and lives on a farm in Montgomery Township; Christian married Miss Martha Minkosiwitz, and lives on a farm in Montgomery Township; Hannah, Joshua, Caleb, and Lillie, are still under the parental roof. All the

family of Mr. and Mrs. Zimmermann are intelligent, energetic and self-supporting; idleness being considered a viee, and industry a virtue. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmermann are among the most prominent members and liberal supporters of the new Mennonite Church, to the spiritual needs of which Mr. Zimmerman ministers, holding the office of an Elder, and being well qualified for the position by his general intelligence and seriptural knowledge.

JOHN B. VARBLE, general farmer and stock-raiser, resides on section 20, Palestine Township. He was born on the 16th of March, 1830, in Hardin County, Ky., also the native county of Abraham Lincoln. He was the eighth in a family of nine children born to Philip and Eda (Spillman) Varble. On the paternal side the family is of German descent, and on the maternal side is of Scottish origin. The grandfather of our subjeet, Philip Varble, Sr., was a resident farmer of Maryland in early life, but accompanied the famous Daniel Boone on his trip of exploration to Kentucky, "the dark and bloody ground." In that wild and unsettled region he determined to make his home, and spent the remainder of his life as a hunter.

Philip Varble, Jr., father of our subject, was born in Kentucky, and reared to manhood in his native State. From his father he inherited a taste for hunting and pioneer life, and as, during his early manhood, the country was wild and unsettled, he had ample opportunity to exercise his powers with the rifle. On reaching man's estate he was united in marriage with Miss Eda Spillman, who was born and reared in Kentucky, where their marriage was celebrated. They also began their domestic life in that State, where a family of eight children was born unto them. In 1831 they left the South, removing to Tazewell County, Ill., and settled on a farm near Washington. Mr. Varble entered 160 aeres of land from the Government and at once began the development of a farm, continuing its cultivation until his death, which oecurred in 1863, at the age of sixty-two years. He belonged to that noble class of pioneers who labor for the interests of the county in which they make their homes, and was a highly respeeted citizen, whom all delighted to honor. After his death Mrs. Varble eame to Woodford County, where she passed the remainder of her life. She died at the home of her son Joseph H., in Palestine Township, at the extreme old age of ninety-five years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Varble were members of the Baptist Church, and their lives were in harmony with their professions.

The subject of this sketch was an infant at the time of the removal of the family to Illinois, where he has since passed his entire life. The days of his boyhood and youth were spent in Tazewell County, and in the schools of the neighborhood he received his education. When the late war broke out and the President issued his eall for troops he offered his services to the country, becoming a member of the 86th Illinois Infantry commanded by Col. Lyons. He was mustered in in 1862 as a member of Company A, under Capt. Joe Majors, and with his regiment started for the South. Soon after reaching Kentucky he was assigned to special duty as forager, and serving in that capacity he accompanied Gen. Sherman on his celebrated march from Atlanta to the sea. He served three years and at the close of hostilities was mustered out on the 27th day of June, 1865.

When the war was over and peaee was again restored, Mr. Varble returned to his home, and on the 27 of September following led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah A. Shelton, the wedding taking place in Bloomington, Ill. The lady is a native of Georgetown, Brown Co., Ohio, and a daughter of James and Clara Shelton, who were also born in the Buckeye State. In 1858 they removed to Eureka, Woodford County, where they made their home for some time, and subsequently became residents of Bloomington, but at length they went to live with their daughter, Mrs. Helen Pike, of Chenoa, with whom they still reside.

Mrs. Varble reeeived a liberal education in the sehools of Eureka, Ill., and is a lady of culture and refinement. She remained with her parents until her marriage. An interesting family of three chil-

dren have been born of the union of this worthy couple—Clara B., Eda J. and Charles E., all yet at home.

In 1868 Mr. Varble came with his family to Woodford County, where he has since resided. He has followed the occupation of farming throughout his entire life, and for the past fifteen years has operated a farm of 240 acres owned by his brother, who is living in El Paso. Everything about the place denotes the thrift and industry of the manager, who is one of the leading and representative farmers of the community. In politics Mr. Varble is a stanch Republican and a warm defender of the party principles. He takes a deep interest in political affairs, and is well informed on all the leading issues of the day, both State and National. He has traveled quite extensively over this country, especially the South and West. In 1863 he traveled across the plains to the Pacific Slope, spending three years in California and Oregon engaged in mining. He encountered some thrilling experiences while in that Western land, and those years proved an interesting period of his life. The return trip was made by water, as he did not again care to undergo the hardships and dangers of the plains.

WILLIAM W. HARPER, now deceased, was for many years a leading citizen of this county. He died at his home in El Paso, Sept. 27, 1887, and his loss was mourned throughout the entire community. It becomes both the duty and pleasure of the historian to record the lives, and thus perpetuate the memory of those who have been prominently identified with the history of the county, and have aided largely in its upbuilding, and as such an one, we gladly insert the sketch of Mr. Harper. He was a native of Virginia, his birth having occurred in Rockbridge County, on the 16th of March, 1815. His parents were also born in the Old Dominion, and in that State their marriage was celebrated. Unto Samuel and Anna (Dryden) Harper, were born several children. About the year 1830, they left their native State, and removed with their family to Indiana, settling in Clinton County, within twelve miles of the city of La Fayette. They were numbered among its early settlers, and the husband and father became one of the leading farmers of the community. He died at his home in that county, when about sixty years of age, after which his wife removed with her son William to Illinois, and made her home near Oneida, Iroquois County, until her death.

The subject of this sketch was about sixteen years of age when the family became residents of Indiana, and from that time he was dependent upon his own resources for a livelihood. He was truly a self-made man, and though he was eminently successful in life, his prosperity was due entirely to his own efforts of industry, perseverance, economy, and good management. In his youth he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years, becoming an expert workman. He resided in Indiana until after attaining his majority, and on arriving at man's estate, was joined in wedlock with Miss Eliza J. Ramsey, a native of Ohio, who came to Indiana in the days of her maidenhood, and subsequently to this State. She died in Iroquois County, Ill., in the prime of life, leaving the following children, two of whom have since followed the mother to the land beyond the grave, namely: Alfred E., who died in childhood; and John T., who was married, and left a wife and three children to mourn his loss. His widow, whose maiden name was Maria Casswell, is now living in California. The other members of the family are: James M., a grain commissioner, who married Nellie Lewis, and resides with his family in Peoria, Ill.; William Henry, who wedded Mollie Perry, now deceased, resides in Chicago, where he operates a grain elevator; Chalmers married Clara Arnold, also deceased, and is now Deputy Sheriff, of Cook County, Ill., residing in Chicago; Harry B. is the husband of Emma Campbell, and resides in Iantha, Mo., where he is engaged as a grain and hay merchant.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Harper, with his family of children, came to Woodford County, and located at what is now Harper's Grove, Panola Township, which was named in his honor.

He there purchased a large tract of land of about 600 acres, only a small portion of which had been improved, and at once began its cultivation. Having previously engaged in carpentering in Indiana, he now found his knowledge of that trade very beneficial. He built his own house, hauling the lumber from Kappa, then the nearest market, and then began life in earnest. He turned his attention to stock-raising, and was very successful in that line, owning at one time one of the best stock farms in the county, which he sold prior to moving to El Paso. He possessed good business ability, was energetic, labored with untiring zeal, and in that way became one of the wealthy farmers of the community. He was a man of practical and progressive ideas, and raised only the best breeds of stock. He devoted his entire attention to his business, was careful and painstaking, and from the first, prosperity attended his efforts.

Some years after he had settled in this county, Mr. Harper was again married, his second union, celebrated in Panola Township, being with Mrs. Sarah J. (Doughtey) Horton. This lady was born in Virginia, about twelve miles from Wheeling, in 1826, and in infancy was left an orphan by the death of her parents. She unfortunately has but little knowledge of her family, as she was reared by her foster-parents, John and Margaret (Shepherd) Vaneyoe, who removed from Virginia to Indiana, when Mrs. Harper was a child. In 1836, they came to Illinois, settling in Palestine Township, this county, where Mr. Vaneyoe purchased a farm, successfully operating it until his death, which occurred at an advanced age. His wife also died on the old homestead, when quite advanced in years.

Mrs. Harper was tenderly reared by her adopted parents, with whom she remained until her marriage with James L. Horton, of New York City, who was born and reared in the Eastern metropolis, and was afterward owner of a wholesale dry-goods house in that city. He subsequently engaged in farming and stock-raising in Illinois. By their union two children were born: Nina, who is now deceased; and Emma, wife of A. Altman, a farmer of Dakota. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Harper took place Jan. 6, 1856, and four children blessed their union: Jesse F., who is now in Missouri; Alice M., and Hattie E., are at home; and Lincoln A., also a resident of Missouri.

As before stated, the death of Mr. Harper occurred on the 27th of September, 1887, at the age of seventy-two years. His was a long and well-spent life. He was a man of sterling worth and strict integrity, and his honorable and upright career won him many friends. He had served his fellow-citizens as Justice of the Peace, and held other township offices, in all of which he discharged his duties with promptness and fidelity. In politics, he was a Republican, and religiously, was a member of the Presbyterian Church. He was a true and loyal citizen, a kind and affectionate husband and father, and a faithful Christian.

Mrs. Harper still makes her home in El Paso. She is a most estimable lady, a member of the Christian Church, and is held in high regard by her many friends.

ROBERT HITCH. Among the representative farmers of Woodford County, few are more prominent and none more worthy of representation in a volume aiming to perpetuate the names and lives of the foremost and most valued citizens of the county, than this gentleman. He has, during a life of industry and perseverance accumulated a nice property and at the same time has not neglected those virtues which are more valuable to every person than mere wealth. He has been a resident of this county ever since the year 1863, his farm being pleasantly located on section 18 in El Paso Township, and comprising 162½ acres of finely improved land. When Mr. Hitch first came here in the fall of the above-mentioned year he was compelled to work very hard indeed, and hired out as a laborer for some time. But, by economically saving all his money, and industriously taking advantage of all possible means of increasing his income, he at last reaped the reward of his toil, and became financially well-to-do But such good results have not

been obtained except by the most strenuous exertion on his part, and his ability and business management have been of great assistance to him in his struggles to become independent. He purchased a farm of his own in 1871, and since that time, with the help of his good wife and his own persevering toil, has attained his position by gradual steps.

Mr. Hitch is a native of the County of Norfolk, England, and was born Feb. 5, 1840. He is an Englishman of pure blood, his father, Robert Hitch, Sr., being also a native of Norfolk, and a farmer by occupation. He was at an early age left an orphan, and compelled to earn his own support. He grew to manhood on a farm, and there in his native county was married to Miss Mary A. Sharp, daughter of Stephen Sharp, a very successful brickmaker of Norfolk County. Mr. Sharp came of a very long-lived family, and himself attained the great age of over one hundred years, having died only a few years ago.

After Robert Hitch, Sr., was married, he commenced to gain a support for his family as an overseer of a farm in England. In the autumn of 1863, accompanied by his wife and most of his children, he came to America, setting sail from Liverpool on the "City of Washington." They encountered dreadful storms on the voyage, but were enabled after a passage of seventeen days to land safely in New York City. This was not their final destination, however, and they journeyed toward the West, where, in Woodford County, they found a home. Several of the older sons had come to this county a few years before their parents emigrated there, and it was through their representations that the father and mother came to the United States. Here the father passed the remaining time allotted to him on earth, and here he died April 7, 1877, when he was seventy-three years of age. He was a hard-working man, one whose word was as good as his bond, and possessed of sterling qualities. His wife, the mother of our subject, is yet living, at the age of seventy-seven years. She is as active and quick in her movements as an ordinary woman at the age of forty, being able to work for hours without fatigue, and can walk as far as in her girlhood days, and without apparent exhaustion. She is a faithful member of the Methodist Church, which was also the religion of her husband. Mr. Hitch, Sr., was in political matters a supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

Robert Hitch, the subject of this sketch, was reared and educated in the land of his birth, which he left to accompany his parents to America. After he had been a resident in this county for some time, he formed a matrimonial alliance with Mrs. Mary (Ellis) Bowman, a native of Yorkshire, England. She is a daughter of John Ellis, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work, and came to the United States with her parents. Her first husband was Thomas Bowman, a man of American birth, but of German ancestry. He died while yet in the prime of life, and left, besides his wife, two daughters, Laura A. and May B., who live at home, and are well-educated and refined young ladies, ornaments to their home and to whatever society they mingle with.

There have come to bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hitch five children, who are named as follows: Harry T., Grace A., John Roy, Robert E. and Joseph G. These are all yet under the parental roof, and are receiving educations which will fit them to make their own way in the world, whatever positions they may be called upon to fill. They attend the Methodist Church and Sunday-school, of which Mr. and Mrs. Hitch are members, and in which they are earnest workers, contributing liberally of their means for the promotion of the Gospel and the spread of the kingdom here on earth. Mr. Hitch, like his father, is an advocate of Republican principles, but has always avoided the cares and responsibilities of public office.

JESSE PLACKETT. Among the many good people of English birth who have come to enjoy our Republican Government, none have achieved greater results in the way of accumulating a comfortable property and becoming esteemed citizens than the subject of this

sketch, who resides on section 22 in Panola Township. He is a native of Warwickshire, England, and was born in the spring of 1828. He is the son of Thomas and Anne (Meads) Plackett, both also born and reared in England. Jesse Plackett was the youngest son in the family, and lived to man's estate in his native county. As a child, and when he grew larger, he was made useful in many ways, assisting his mother, and learned to turn his hand to anything that ought to be done. In those days very few of the boys and girls received good educations, and they were compelled to work during the summer at their homes. Our subject did not fare better than the majority of those who lived at that time, and had to be content with a very limited education. But he gained that best of all educations, the one which we may all obtain if we studiously apply ourselves to a carefully selected course of study, and that is self-education. By far the most of the world-renowned men are those who in youth endured privations and hardships, but rose above them all. In the spring of 1853 he emigrated to this country, taking passage from Liverpool in a sailing-vessel called the "Screamer," an old trading-vessel. He was five weeks on the voyage between that port and the city of New York, and upon that same vessel was the maiden who was afterward to become his wife, but then a mere child, accompanying her parents to the new home beyond the waters. Upon reaching New York, our subject came directly to Woodford County, Ill., where he worked as a farm hand for $12 a month and board. Although his days were full of labor, yet he did not allow himself to become indifferent to good reading, and kept himself well-posted on all topics of importance.

A very important event in the life of Mr. Plackett was his marriage, which occurred March 4, 1861, the bride on that occasion being Miss Mary Walden, a native of the same county as himself, and born March 10, 1844. Her parents were Thomas and Sarah (Hirons) Walden, who, as above-mentioned, came to the United States in the year 1853. They also came to Woodford County to find a home, and at first resided in Metamora, afterward in Panola Township. In this latter place the remaining part of the lives of these old people was passed, and there both died. They had endured all the hardships incident to pioneer life, and were universally respected and beloved by all who had the pleasure of their acquaintance. They were poor, as were all pioneers, in money, and Mr. Walden worked as a blacksmith after coming to Metamora, and also followed the trade upon his farm. The date of his death was June 13, 1873, and it was felt that by this event Woodford County was deprived of one of its best citizens. The mother had passed away previous to the death of her husband, her death taking place Oct. 8, 1871. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Walden, namely: Annie, who married Oliver Shaw, and makes her home in Panola Township, where her husband was a farmer; Mrs. Plackett, the wife of our subject; Joseph, in Kansas; and Sarah E., who became the wife of Lewis Schafer, a resident of Tazewell County, Ill., and died March 6, 1888, in that county.

Our subject and wife became the parents of four children, and he is the owner of a residence and two lots in the city of El Paso. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Plackett, none remain to bless the home circle with their presence, two having been removed by death, and the two remaining having formed other ties. Their daughter, Sarah E., was united in marriage with Albert Grundy, a resident of this county. The younger daughter, Annie S., is the wife of Thomas Strickland, also a resident of this county.

Mr. Plackett after coming here had to rent a farm, as he did not have the means to purchase one, but constant toil and persistent economy at last reaped their reward, and in the spring of 1865 he settled on the farm where he now resides, and which has been his home ever since. He first purchased forty acres, all being raw prairie land, practically destitute of all improvements, and has added to this by subsequent purchase until he now owns 120 acres of good land, all well-cultivated. When he bought the land it was virtually as the Indians had left it, but by dint of perseverance and industry, he has accumulated a property of which he may well be proud. In this work he has the assistance of his wife, who has ever been a faithful helpmate and wise counselor. They have seen the

land change in appearance from a desert waste, wild and swampy, to fields blooming with the products of man's industry and energy. When they came to make this their home wild deer abounded, as well as other game.

Mrs. Plackett is an active, energetic member of the United Brethren Church, and she and her husband move in the best circles of society. They are among the representative pioneers of Woodford County, and are now in the prime of life enjoying the fruits of a lifetime of labor.

PETER GARBER, a native-born citizen of Illinois, is now a prosperous member of its farming community, bringing a well-balanced mind and cool common-sense to his work, so that his farm on section 25, Cazenovia Township, is in every respect well-ordered and under the best of management. Our subject was born in Tazewell County, Aug. 8, 1849. His father, Joseph Garber, was born in the German province of Alsace, while it was under the dominion of France, and his father was also a native of that part of the country, and was there reared and married. In 1840 he started with his family for America, and landing at New Orleans, came at once to Illinois by way of a steamer up the Mississippi River. The steamer sprang a leak, and all the passengers were landed on the Tennessee shore, and while they were waiting for another boat to take them to their destination, the great-grandfather of our subject, who was of the party, was taken sick and died, and his remains were laid away in this strange land so far away from his new home of which he had but caught a glimpse. As soon as possible the family proceeded on their journey up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peoria, and from there came to Woodford County, and became early settlers of Worth Township. There the grandfather purchased a tract of timber land, and after erecting a log house for a dwelling entered upon the improvement of his land. At that early day deer, wild turkeys, wolves, and other wild animals were plenty, and the country round-about gave but few indications of the advancing civilization. There were no railways here for many years after that, and Spring Bay, one of the most flourishing towns in this section of the country, was the resort of the people for miles around, who went there to market their grain and buy their supplies. The grandparents of our subject continued to reside in Worth Township until their death.

The father of our subject was a young man when he came to this country with his parents, and he continued to live with them until his marriage, when he established a home of his own. Being in very limited circumstances when he commenced life for himself, he rented land until he could afford to buy. This he was soon enabled to do, as he worked hard and was economical and thrifty, and he invested his savings in sixty acres of land in Worth Township. He occupied that a few years and then sold it advantageously and bought a larger tract, containing 100 acres, in the same township, which he still owns and occupies. He has accumulated other valuable property besides, having always been industrious, and investing his money very judiciously. He has a farm of 160 acres near Colfax, McLean County, a 240 acre farm in Tazewell County, and forty acres of fine timber land in the latter county. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Anna Sweitzer, and she was also born in Alsace. Her union was blessed by the birth of eight children, of whom seven are now living—Peter, Mary, Joseph, Christian, Valentine, Magdalena and Jacob.

The subject of this biographical review is the eldest of the family. He was reared in Worth Township, and gleaned a sound education in the public schools. As soon as old enough he began to aid his father in the farm work, and under his careful training gained much useful knowledge concerning the best methods of conducting agriculture. He remained under the parental roof until his twenty-third year, and then, as his father had done before him, he commenced life for himself on rented land, leasing a neighbor's farm for two years, and at the expiration of that time moving onto one of his father's farms, which he man-

Carl Johann

aged profitably until 1883. In that year he settled on his present estate, which he had purchased in 1882. This farm comprises 160 acres of choice, well-improved land, furnished with a neat and commodious set of frame buildings, and the place is adorned with beautiful shade, ornamental and fruit trees.

Mr. Garber is blessed with a good wife, who is of real assistance to him, and makes his home comfortable and cheerful. She was born in Worth Township, Woodford County, and her maiden name was Lena Dellenbach, she being a daughter of Jacob and Lena Dellenbach, the former a native of France and the latter of America. Mr. and Mrs. Garber have three children—Annie, Nora and Laura. The family are esteemed members of the old Omish or Mennonite Church.

Mr. Garber is a self-reliant, straightforward young man, of good, practical views of life and of his work, and he is honest and truthful in his habits. He usually votes with the Democretic party on National questions, but in regard to local issues he acts independently, supporting whom he considers to be the best man for the office without regard to his political views.

CARL JOHANN, A.M., LL.D., President of Eureka College, is a gentleman of fine abilities and high intellectual attainments, which have amply qualified him for the duties of his present responsible position. He is a native of Switzerland, and was born March 2, 1849, being thus in the very prime of manhood. His early life was spent in his native canton, where he lived until he was twenty years old.

In accordance with the laws and customs of his native country, young Johann was placed in school when a lad of six years, and was occupied with his studies eleven months in the year from that time until a youth of fourteen. He first attended the public school at Chaux-de-Fonds, and later entered the college at Lausanne and was there prepared for the University at Geneva. Next he entered the Polytechnic School at Zurich, and upon leaving this became a student in the University of Paris, where his education was completed.

Our subject within three months after leaving the above named institution set out for America, and landed in New York City, May 1, 1869. He was then almost wholly unfamiliar with the English language, and being without means, his first business was to secure employment. He emigrated to Collinsville, Conn., and for four months afterward worked on a farm. In the meantime he improved his leisure hours in studying the English language, and with the assistance given by those around him was soon enabled to talk intelligently with the people of his adopted country. Being naturally studious and fond of his books, he made admirable headway and in due time was employed as a private tutor by the man for whom he had worked on the farm.

Concluding, however, to see something more of the United States, Mr. Johann finally started for the West, visiting Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans. During the winter of 1870-71 he assisted in the survey of the western branch of the Texas Central Railroad. Before leaving Switzerland he had studied civil engineering, the knowledge of which served him well upon coming to this country. Upon leaving the Lone-Star State he emigrated north to Illinois, halting first in Tallula, Menard County, where he was employed on a farm nearly one year. In the interval he made some pleasant acquaintances, through whose influence he was selected as teacher in one of the public schools at a salary of $30 per month. He pursued teaching in Menard County for four years, and in due time commanded the highest salary ever paid a teacher in that county.

In the fall of 1876 Mr. Johann, who during all this time had devoted his leisure hours to study, was selected professor of modern languages in Eureka College and has occupied this position since that time. In 1886 his faithful and efficient services received their just recognition by his selection as President of the College to succeed Dr. J. M. Allen. He is master of several languages — English, German, French, Spanish and Italian — and also reads readily Norwegian and Swedish.

He possesses the gift of language in a noble degree, having a peculiar adaptability both in acquiring and in giving instruction. In his career has been illustrated in a marked degree the results of perseverance and industry. Landing in America, a stranger in a strange land, without other resources than the result of his well spent time at school and his natural courage, the position which he now occupies reflects in an admirable manner upon the persistence and energy with which he has followed one steady purpose, and proves a bright example to any young man who feels that his lot in life has been cast in hard places.

The residence of Dr. Johann and his little family is pleasantly located on Darst Street, and is the frequent resort of the refined and cultured people of the city. The amiable and estimable lady who presides over it and to whom he was married Oct. 8, 1879, was Miss Georgina Callender, daughter of George Callender, A.M., one of the former presidents of Eureka College. Mrs. Johann was born in Eureka, Nov. 12, 1853 and completed her studies in Eureka College. This union has resulted in the birth of four children, namely, Helen, Agnes, George and Albert.

The parents of our subject were Albert and Matilda (Russ) Johann, both natives of Switzerland. The father was a watchmaker by occupation and spent his entire life in his own beautiful land, dying in 1882. The parental family included six children, five sons and one daughter, of whom Carl was the second in order of birth. Only three are now living. One brother is a wholesale hardware merchant in Naples, Italy, and the sister is the wife of Max Mewes, a German merchant living in Constantinople, Turkey.

The excellence of Eureka College, as a medium of instruction, is thoroughly recognized throughout Illinois, and not a little of its prestige is due to its present president. He loves learning for its own sake and takes a warm interest in the success and reputation of his college, which graduates annually a generous number of students fitted to take their places in the world and in society and to become useful and worthy members of their communities. No institutions in the world are conducted in a more thorough manner than those of the Old Country, and the careful training received by Dr. Johann during his youth has been of inestimable value, not only to himself but to those under his charge, from whom he exacts as far as possible the same application and attention to details, which has made of his intellectual career a fine success.

Our many patrons in Woodford County, and also the students of Eureka College, who cherish a tender affection for their college, as well as the graduates who hold in dear remembrance their loved alma mater, will welcome the fine portrait of Dr. Johann, which gives added interest and value to this work.

JOHN M. MURRAY, dealer in grain and live stock, and proprietor of the Eureka Elevator, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, March 8, 1835. When eighteen years old he came with his parents to America and lived in New York city about three years. In 1857 he came to Tazewell County, this State, and lived three years in Washington, operating as clerk in the lumber business and also teaching school. Later he engaged in the lumber business in Metamora, whence, in 1861, he removed to Eureka, and established himself in the lumber and grain business which he conducted several years. Then selling his interest in the lumber he gave his attention exclusively to grain and live stock.

In 1881 Mr. Murray admitted his son as a partner in the business. His elevator has a capacity of 50,000 bushels, and can easily accommodate 25,000 bushels more. It is operated by steam power supplied by the tile factory. In 1883 Mr. Murray formed a business partnership which was dissolved after two and one-half years, and then Mr. Murray sold his interest to his son and has since given his attention to grain and live stock. He was one of the originators of the tile plant, and has been identified with other business interest at Eureka. He represented Olio Township in the County Board of Supervisors five years, being Chairman of the Board one year. He has been a School Director

and Township Trustee, and takes quite an interest in political affairs, acting as President of the Republican Club during several campaigns. He is also warmly interested in church work, and with his family is an adherent of the Presbyterian faith.

Mr. Murray was married at Washington, Ill., in 1857, to Miss Ellen Smith, daughter of the late James Smith, who was prominent as a contractor and builder of that locality. Mrs. Murray was born in Washington, Ill., and is now the mother of two children—William and Annie. Our subject has erected a fine house in Eureka where he resides, and he owns 180 acres of land in Olio Township. Socially he belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

JAMES M. FORT, one of the foremost citizens of Minonk, his place of residence and business, and of Woodford County in general, is distinguished not only as a lawyer of no mean ability, but also as an editor and publisher of more than ordinary enterprise. He is editor and proprietor of the Minonk *Blade*, and publishes besides the following papers:—The Rutland *Post*, the Dana *Herald*, the Flanigan *Sun*, the Roanoke *News*, and the Benson *Argus*.

Our subject comes of a renowned ancestry, and in the long line of descent the names of many distinguished soldiers, scholars, statesmen, and professional men appear. The Fort family originated in France. The family came to America in early Colonial times, in the year 1660, and first located in New Jersey, and later in Pennsylvania, and since that time the Forts have been represented in every war that has taken place in this country. From generation to generation they proudly held to the French language until the present century, and the males were generally lawyers or soldiers. The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin F. Fort, bore an honorable part in the War of 1812, and is noted as having been a pioneer of two of our great Western States. He subsequently left his birthplace, the Quaker City, and settled near what is now Ironton, on the French Grant in Ohio, and was a pioneer of that section of the country. He became a prominent citizen, and took an active part in public affairs. He held the office of Justice of the Peace many years, and was noted for his impartial decisions and the sound judgment that called them forth, and it is a remarkable fact that none of his decisions were ever reversed by a higher court. In 1833 he again took up the westward march and penetrated to the wilds of the sparsely settled State of Illinois, accompanied by two sons and some of his daughters with their families. He became one of the first settlers on Round Prairie, Marshall County, and was engaged in farming there a few years before his removal to Lacon, where he died, having rounded out a long life of over eighty years.

His son, Washington D. Fort, was born in the French Grant of Ohio, Sept. 17, 1820, and the early years of his life were passed amid the scenes of that part of the State. He was a boy of thirteen when he came with his father to Illinois, and in the new pioneer home grew to manhood, being bred to the life of a farmer, and adopted that calling as his life-work. He was married April 22, 1841, to Miss S. S. Foster, a native of Kentucky, who came to Illinois with her parents when a child. Her father was the Rev. John C. Foster, a farmer, and a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After marriage Mr. Fort settled on a farm in Round Prairie. Being an astute, clear-headed man, capable and of wise judgment, and an intelligent worker, his pioneer labors were crowned with extraordinary success, and he became the owner of no less than 1,000 acres of valuable land. He was well-known in the State, and was always a leading citizen, and was frequently a delegate to conventions, though he had no aspirations for office, but unselfishly used his influence in favor of his brother, Greenberry L., who was a member of Congress several terms, representing the 8th Illinois District. He (the father of our subject) was a Whig, and later became a stalwart advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, always active in its work, and one of its most liberal supporters. His death occurred Sept. 7, 1873, and was a severe blow to the material and religious interests of his

community. His wife preceded him in death only a few months, dying February 6th, in the same year. Of their thirteen children eight grew to maturity, as follows: William J. is a farmer in Marshall County, where he has served as County Judge; James M. is our subject; Josephine is the widow of John Sweet, a resident of Hiawatha, Kan.; Mary A., a resident of Marshall County; John F. is a lawyer in Bismarck, Dak.; Greenberry L. is an attorney at Minneapolis, Minn.; Medora E., now Mrs. Harry Jones, resides on the homestead in Marshall County; Charles T. also lives on the old Fort homestead.

James M. Fort, of this biographical review, was born in Marshall County July 1, 1846, received the foundations of a solid education in the public schools, and then entered Wesleyan University. After leaving college he pursued the teacher's profession for some time, and when not attending to his school duties studied law, and Oct. 18, 1869, successfully passed the necessary examination, and was admitted to the bar before the Supreme Court of Illinois at Ottawa. He then became a partner in the law firm of Garratt & Fort at Metamora. July 13, 1870, he came to Minonk, and has practiced his profession here ever since, attending to all classes of business that come before the courts of the State, and having as much as he can possibly attend to, in connection with his other business. In July, 1877, he turned his attention to the journalistic profession, purchasing at that time the Minonk *Times*, three months later changing the name to the Minonk *Blade*, and still continues its publication. In this venture he has been very much prospered, and has made of it both a financial and literary success. The *Blade* is edited in a scholarly manner, and is deservedly popular, and has a large circulation. Its editorials are clear, thoughtful expositions of the situation of public and National affairs, or of whatsoever interests the populace in general. Mr. Fort has other sources of income besides his law practice and publishing business, as, aside from his property in Minonk and investments in the West, he has 160 acres of choice, valuable, well-improved land.

Mr. Fort has been twice married. He was first wedded June 16, 1870, to Miss Carrie Clark, daughter of L. D. Clark, a farmer of Marshall County. She was born in Carlisle, Ind., and died in the pleasant home that she and her husband had established in Minonk, her death occurring in 1880. She was the mother of four children, two of whom survive her, Arthur C. and Clara E. Our subject was married the second time March 24, 1881, to Mrs. Margaret E. Egbert, *nee* Ellwood. She has one son by her previous marriage, Jerome W.

Mr. Fort is one of the leaders of the Republican party in this vicinity. As a man of education, far-reaching enterprise and talents of a high order, he wields a great influence in the management of public affairs, and his fellow-citizens have often wisely sought his counsel and aid in the advancement of the highest interests of the city, and have called him to its highest civic offices, and he has been City Attorney and City Clerk, and has represented Minonk on the County Board of Supervisors. It is not as an office-holder, that he is best known or will be longest remembered, but as the conscientious and safe counselor, the accurate and pure writer, the unostentatious and upright citizen.

DR. JOHN A. SCHOFIELD, one of the most practical and successful dentists of El Paso, occupies a pleasant suite of rooms on Front street in the Shaffer block, and in his professional capacity is visited by the best people of the city. He has been established in business here since 1879 and is assisted in his labors by Dr. C. A. Eisenhart's electric battery for the extraction of teeth, doing the work thoroughly and speedily. As a student of the Cincinnati Dental College, (in March, 1873) the Doctor is thoroughly conversant with the duties of his calling, in which he is making a decided success. At the time of the meeting of the Central State Dental Association, held in El Paso, his work received favorable notice and was pronounced without fault. For four years the Doctor had been under the instruction of Dr. S. W. Wood, one of the prominent dentists of Wilmington, Ohio. He has done some

fine crown work, and keeps himself well posted in regard to the improvements being constantly made in dentistry.

After practicing in Wilmington, Ohio, Dr. Schofield changed the scene of his operations to Cincinnati, from which place he emigrated westward. He was born in Germantown, Pa, Oct. 17, 1854, and is the son of William Schofield, a native of England, who came to America late in the '30s and located in Philadelphia. He was there married to Miss Anna Routh, a native of his own country, and, who came with relatives to America when fourteen years old—her parents having died in England. William Schofield began life in this country without means and for a number of years labored early and late in order to get a start. He saved up his money and in 1862 emigrated to Wilmington, Ohio, where he began work as a manufacturer of woolen cloth. During the war there was great demand for the product of his looms, and he made a snug fortune. He is now operating three large mills. Although nearly seventy years of age, he possesses all his faculties to a remarkable degree, being hale and hearty, and active in mind and body. He makes his home in Wilmington, Ohio. The mother of our subject is also living and is a bright old lady, less than sixty years of age.

There were born to the parents of our subject two sons and two daughters, of whom John A., was the youngest but one. He worked with his father in the woolen factory during his younger years, becoming master of the trade and for several years was manager of the factory. After leaving the primary school he attended Wilmington College, and later became a student of the Bryant & Stratton Business College of Cincinnati. He thus acquired a practical knowledge of the methods by which men succeed in business matters, but chose dentistry for his profession.

In Wilmington, Ohio, Dr. Schofield was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Haynes, who was born in Knoxville, Ill., Aug. 24, 1857. Mrs. Schofield was reared and educated in her native town, attending college there. Her father died in California during the early mining days of the Golden State, whither he had gone in the hopes of making a fortune. The mother is still living, having her home in El Paso, and is now about sixty years old. The Doctor and his amiable wife are the parents of two children—Maude I. and Anna. They are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our subject, socially, belongs to the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Council of the Associated Branch of the Eastern Star. Politically, he is a straight Republican, and although meddling very little with public affairs, keeps himself well posted and has his own views upon political and religious topics. The Doctor is an officer on the Board of Health of the city of El Paso.

MARSHALL W. MONTGOMERY. The life and labors of this gentleman furnish a good illustration of what can be accomplished by thrift and industry. He has by unremitting perseverance and attention to the details of business built up a comfortable home, one beautiful on the exterior and handsomely furnished within. His homestead comprises 240 acres on section 19, in El Paso Township, and is well-improved and supplied with substantial farm buildings. Mr. Montgomery has made his home on this farm ever since he became a resident of Woodford County, in the year 1850.

Mr. Montgomery was born near Terre Haute, Ind., on the 14th day of February, 1838, and from that vicinity came to make his home on his present farm. The Montgomery family came to Indiana from Kentucky, of which State they were early settlers. The original ancestor of the Montgomery family in America, was one Samuel Montgomery, who came from the North of Ireland when he was in the prime of life. He settled in the Keystone State, when the red man's warwhoop was heard ever and anon resounding through the valleys and across the mountains. White settlers were few and separated by many intervening miles; their lives were in constant danger, and the safety of their homes threatened by the savages. Samuel Montgomery was by occupation a farmer, and followed his business in his new home in America

Here he lived and died, at the time of his death being quite an old man. He is thought to have married an American woman of Pennsylvania birth, who with her husband remained in that State until their decease. He and his wife affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in religious sentiments, and were universally respected among the best people of their native State. They reared a large family of children, among them one who was christened George, and who became the father of our subject. This son, George, was born and reared in his native State, Pennsylvania, and worked as a farm boy, making himself useful in every way necessary for the promotion of the industries of the farm. While yet a young man he set out for the new State of Kentucky, in the early part of the present century, and sought a home near Lexington. This place was then the "happy hunting-grounds" of the Indians, who were at war with the white settlers, and were fierce and cruel in the extreme. Surrounded on all sides by the dreaded tomahawk, George Montgomery was forced to spend seven years of his early life in a fort as a means of protection against assault. By-and-by the Indians were driven away from their old rendezvous to the far-away West, and thus their old haunts were opened to the American settlers.

After a few years spent in Kentucky, Mr. Montgomery was united in marriage with Miss Anna Willoby, a native of the famous Blue Grass region, though born of Virginia parents. After the birth of three children Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery came North to Vigo County, Ind., which was then very sparsely settled. Again Mr. Montgomery was called upon to battle with the primitive soil, and reduce it to a state of cultivation, and as before he was prospered in his undertakings. However, he met with an irreparable loss in the death of his wife, this sad event occurring in 1842, when she was yet in the prime of life, having attained the age of forty-five years. Once more Mr. Montgomery changed the scene of his labors, and removed yet a little farther towards the setting sun, the remainder of his long and active life being passed in El Paso Township. There his death occurred in 1863, when he was seventy-eight years of age. Thus after a life of hardships and changes he at last rested from his labors, with the knowledge that he had passed a life in the doing of good deeds, and in acts of charity and kindness to those who needed his assistance. He and his wife were devoted members of the Christian Church, and were held in high esteem wherever they lived.

Mr. Marshall W. Montgomery, the subject of this notice, passed his early years on the homestead in Vigo County, Ind., and there received a practical education under the immediate instruction of kind, devoted Christian parents, who sought to prepare him for the arduous duties of life. He was taught the necessary lessons of industry and economy, and never was a shirker in the work that accumulated at his father's home. When the war-cloud burst upon the country, Mr. Montgomery was among the first to respond to the call for men, and enlisted from Woodford County, which was then his home, in Company G, 4th Illinois Cavalry. This company had as captain H. D. Cook, while Col. T. Lyle Dickey, was the commanding officer. The date of Mr. Montgomery's enlistment was April 26, 1861. He was with his regiment in many active battles, participating in the engagements at Fort Donelson, Fort Henry, Corinth, Vicksburg and Shiloh. His conspicuous bravery at the latter place won for him the position of Sergeant of his regiment. He escaped unhurt through all these battles, but saw a great deal of active fighting. He was a brave soldier, and on duty almost every day.

After peace had returned to the country, Mr. Montgomery was united in marriage on Feb. 9, 1865, to Miss Martha, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Fair) Campbell. This lady was born in Indiana County, Pa., on Aug. 7, 1859. Thomas Campbell was a native of Pennsylvania; his parents were natives of Scotland. The Campbell family found their way to the United States at a very early period of our nation's history, and located in Indiana County, Pa., when there were only a few settlers. They crossed the ocean and located in Pennsylvania prior to the Revolutionary War. The father and mother of Thomas Campbell lived and died in this State, and were respected by all who knew them, being industrious and successful people of good, old Presbyterian stock. Charles

Campbell—the grandfather of Mrs. Montgomery, was a general in the Colonial armies during the War of the Revolution. He and his brother were both taken prisoners with nine others, and kept as such about nine months. The Indians bound them to logs—and Gen. Montgomery who was bound with his brother to a log—saw his brother and nine others scalped by the Indians. The Indians put copper kettles over the heads of those whom they did not intend to scalp. Prior to the Revolutionary War, the Campbells had frequently to resort to Fort Duquesne (now Pittsburg) for safety from the Indians. After the Revolutionary War, Gen. Campbell built a mill and large distillery of stone, on Blackliek Creek, in Indiana County, Pa., which is still standing, though over a hundred years old. He accumulated considerable property, and lived there till his death. His principal market was Pittsburg. Thomas Campbell came up under proper training, and for years assisted in operating his father's mill, and on coming to Illinois became a farmer. He chose as the partner of his life, Miss Elizabeth Fair, who was born in the Keystone State, of German parentage. Her parents emigrated from the Fatherland to Indiana County, Pa., where they passed the rest of their lives.

After Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were married they commenced life in the usual way of Pennsylvania farmers, and by unremitting toil gained many of the comforts of life. Several years after they were married they removed to this State, making their home in Farmington, Fulton County. Later they removed to El Paso, and here the father passed the remaining time allotted to him upon earth, dying when past three-score years, a highly respected citizen. His wife yet survives him, and makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Billinger, in Wichita, Kan. She is at present (1889) seventy-eight years of age, and is a good woman, possessed of many womanly virtues.

Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery set themselves about gaining a good home, and have been so far successful that they now have a pleasant, comfortable home, of which they may justly be proud. But of far more value than this, they have reared a family of thoughtful, intelligent children. Of their children they have lost George, who was eleven years of age at the time of his death. The living are: Lottie, who married Mr. Van Fry, a farmer and teacher, of El Paso Township; Charles, Archie and Frank, who are yet at home. In religious matters, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery and Lottie, are members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics, Mr. Montgomery is a supporter of the Republican party.

JOHN L. McGUIRE, a veteran of the late war in which he devoted some of the best years of his youth and opening manhood to the service of his adopted country, is now a prominent agriculturist of Woodford County, and a leading citizen of Metamora, with whose public life he is closely connected as one of its most intelligent and progressive civic officials. He and his wife have a fine residence in town, making, with its surroundings, one of the most attractive homes in this vicinity, and they own 300 acres of fine farming land adjoining the town, besides other valuable property.

Our subject was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, Aug. 27, 1844. His father, John McGuire, is supposed to have been born in the same county, and he was there reared and married, Bridget Quinn, a native of the same county, becoming his wife. Her entire wedded life was passed there, and in 1844 was brought to a premature close by her death, when her family were deprived of a good wife and a tender mother. In 1853 the father left his native land with his six children, and setting sail from Liverpool on an American-bound vessel landed in New York eight weeks and two days later. He proceeded from there to Cincinnati, Ohio, where his death occurred in 1856. His daughter, Johanna, died in this country after attaining womanhood; his son, William, died in Cincinnati; Mary married John Costigan, and they live in Louisville, Ky.; Catherine married John Murray, and they also live in Louisville; Richard died in that city.

John L., of whom we write, was in his ninth

year when he came to America with his father, and in his twelfth, when, by the sad death of that parent he was thrown on his own resources for a living. Previous to that time he attended school, and, considering his youthfulness, had obtained a very good education, and he then went to Brown County, Ohio, and found employment on a farm, receiving his board and clothes in return for his work. He stayed in that place till the spring of 1858, and then came to Woodford County and worked as a farm hand by the month, continuing in the employ of the man with whom he came to the county till the month of September, 1858, at which time he engaged with W. W. Egbert, continuing with him till Jan. 30, 1862. On that date, he, a strong, manly, self-reliant youth, imbued with the patriotic desire to serve the country where he had found a home, enlisted in Company D, 51st Illinois Infantry, and was in the army till 1865. He took part in the battles of New Madrid, Mo., Island No. 10, Corinth, Stone River, Chickamauga, etc. September 20, 1863, he was wounded and the same evening was captured by the Confederates. He remained on the battle-field ten days, and was then taken to Richmond, Va. where he was confined till the 16th day of April, 1864, suffering all the horrors of life in the cruel rebel prisons. He was then paroled, and later was exchanged and joined his regiment at Kenesaw Mountain. Our subject accompanied Sherman to Atlanta; and from there went with Generals Thomas and Schofield in pursuit of Hood, and did gallant service at the battle of Spring Hill, which occurred Nov. 29, 1864, and on the following day was with his regiment at Franklin, Tenn., and on the 15th and 16th of December, fought in the battle of Nashville. After that he and his comrades pursued Gen. Hood to Decatur, Ala., and from there Mr. McGuire went to Huntsville, where he was honorably discharged Feb. 28, 1865, having faithfully served with great credit to himself and for the good of the cause which he earnestly championed.

On his return home from the exciting scenes of military life in the South, our subject quietly resumed his work as a farm laborer, and was thus engaged two years, when he began operations on his own account, and with the aid of a good wife, now owns with her, one of the finest farms in this locality. It is well cultivated, is amply provided with a fine set of buildings for every necessary purpose and all kinds of machinery for conducting farming to the best advantage, and is under most excellent management.

November 24, 1870, was the date of a most auspicious occurrence in the life of our subject, his marriage with Miss Delia Page. She comes of good New England blood and of pioneer stock, her paternal grandparents being among the early settlers of Woodford County. She was born in Gilmanton, N. H., and of her marriage with our subject three children have come—May, Myra, and John Adino. Adino Page, Mrs. McGuire's father, was born in Gilmanton, N. H., May 3, 1822, a son of John and Betsey Page. [For his parental history see sketch of John W. Page.] He was fourteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to this county, which was then in a wild, sparsely settled condition. After attaining manhood he returned to the East, and lived in Somerville, Mass., for a time. He subsequently went back to his native Gilmanton, where he was appointed Superintendent of the alms house. From there he went to South Danvers, (now Peabody) Mass., and was Superintendent of the alms house in that town till 1859, when he came once again to Metamora, and was made the first Superintendent of the Woodford County alms house, a responsible position for which his past experience amply qualified him. At the expiration of ten years he resigned his office as the head of that institution, having some time previously become interested with his brother, John W. in the banking and mercantile business. He continued to devote his entire time to that till his demise Feb. 24, 1885. In his death Metamora lost one of its most valuable citizens, one who was an important factor in its financial prosperity. The maiden name of his wife was Arvilla Page, and she was likewise a native of Gilmanton, N. H. She resides with our subject.

Mr. McGuire is endowed with fine mental capacity, and is a man of more than ordinary energy, tact, and business talent, as is shown by the fact that though he has scarcely attained the meri-

dian of life, he occupies a conspicuous place among the representative, well-to-do citizens of Metamora. It is to such men as our subject that this town owes its present high standing, as he always warmly favors all plans for its advancement, giving substantial aid to carry them out. His fellow-townsmen have not failed to recognize his superior merits and qualifications and have called him to some of the most responsible offices within their gift. Thus he is now serving with honor his fifth term as a member of the County Board of Supervisors, and his second term as Justice of the Peace. He is also President of the Metamora Town Board, and a member of the Board of Education. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Grant, but since 1876 he has affiliated with the Democratic party. He is a valued member of the Dan Miles Post, No. 270, G. A. R. He was formerly prominently connected with the A. F. & A. M., belonging to Metamora Lodge, No. 82, Woodford Chapter, No. 110; Metamora Council, No. 38, till they threw up their charters. He served as Master of the Blue Lodge, and was Secretary of the other lodges at the time of their disbandment. He is now a member of W. C. Hobbs Lodge, A. F. & A. M. No. 380 at Eureka, this county.

BARTLETT W. UPHOFF. Among the enterprising and persevering Germans who crossed the Atlantic to make a home and a fortune in the land beyond the seas, none are held in greater esteem for many sterling qualities, than the gentleman whose name is at the head of this sketch. Surely too much cannot be said in praise of the foreigner, who leaves his friends to go among strangers, alone and often penniless, and by continued honesty and energy gains a foothold among the struggling masses. Such an one is Mr. Uphoff, and it is a matter of pride to himself and his family, that his present position has been obtained by his own persistent and well-directed efforts.

Mr. Uphoff is the owner and operator of 120 acres of land in this county, all of which has been improved until it is now in fine condition. Here he has a comfortable residence, which he makes his home. His aged mother also lives with him, but his father passed away many years ago. His home is made a happy one by the presence in it of a wife, a most estimable woman, and a group of childish faces. He takes a prominent part in affairs, both social and political, of the county, and usually votes the Republican ticket, being in full sympathy with the principles of that party. He has held various offices of local importance, among them that of Township Collector. Religiously, he and his family attend the Lutheran Church, of which they are members in full standing.

Mr. Uphoff was born in Germany, Nov. 9, 1848, and is the son of Weet B. and Foelke Uphoff. The father and mother accompanied by their family of children, came to America in 1855, and settled in Woodford County, this State, in 1857. They had previously made their home for a short time in Peoria, but thence removed to section 15, Clayton Township, where the father spent the remainder of his life, and where our subject now lives. Upon coming here, the father purchased eighty acres of land, which was then in a wild, uncultivated state, but which he improved very much during his residence thereon. He was a man of business tact and management, and at the time of his death had increased his real estate holdings to hundreds of acres. His death occurred in 1874, when he had attained the age of seventy-three. Mr. and Mrs. Weet Uphoff were the parents of five children, namely: Bernhard W., Foelka W., Anna, who is the wife of William Giles, a resident of Peoria County; John and Bartlett W., the subject of this notice.

Bartlett W. Uphoff was a lad of only seven years when he came to America. He lived at the parental homestead until he went to a home of his own in 1869. In that year he became the husband of Miss Catherine Clodius, a native of the same country as himself, and who has five brothers and one sister in the United States, residing in Nebraska and Washington. Mrs. Uphoff and her sister were respectively the youngest and the oldest in their parents' family, while their brothers were: Christopher, Hans, Henry, William and Joachim.

Mr. and Mrs. Uphoff have a family of seven children living, while one child was taken from the home circle at the age of two years. Their family record is as follows: Weet, Christine, Dena, Anna, Rosa, Claus and Willie; Matilda is deceased. Mr. Uphoff is naturally anxious that his children should have all the advantages of the splendid school system that is an American institution, and therefore is giving them good educational opportunities.

SQUIRE W. MYERS, Supervisor of Olio Township, was elected to this office in the spring of 1889. He belongs to the Democratic party, and has been quite prominent in political affairs. He is a native of this county, having been born in Cruger Township, July 26, 1856. His parents were Lewis H. and Christina (Helvern) Myers, who were natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Pickaway County, Ohio. They were married in the latter county, whence they came to Illinois in 1855, settling in Cruger Township, of which they have since been residents.

To the parents of our subject there were born four sons and four daughters, of whom he was next to the youngest. He acquired his education in the common school mostly, although attending Westfield College in Clark County, for two years. In due time he engaged in farming for two years in Panola Township, and then received the appointment of Deputy Sheriff, under Sheriff Horner, during which term of two years he was a resident of Metamora. When withdrawing from this office he returned to Panola Township and prosecuted farming there three years. In the spring of 1884 he established himself at Eureka, of which he has since been a resident, and is engaged in the breeding of fine horses, making a specialty of both draft and trotting animals. He has a tasteful residence in this city with pleasant home surroundings.

Our subject was married in Montgomery Township, this county, Feb. 7, 1878, to Miss Isabella Stumbaugh, who was born in this township, in May, 1858. They are now the parents of four children —Gay, Clark S., Lewis D. and Mossie. Mr. Myers formerly represented Panola Township on the County Board of Supervisors, serving one term.

LEWIS WINETEER, an old and highly respected citizen of Woodford County, has been operating a farm in Linn Township since the pioneer days of 1850, and now has it so cultivated and improved that it is classed among the most productive and most to be desired farms in this locality.

Our subject was born in Orange County, Ind., Nov. 30, 1821. His father, Thomas S. Wineteer, was a native of Virginia, who at some period of his life moved from there to Kentucky, and from thence to Orange County, Ind., of which he was an early pioneer. He bought a tract of heavily timbered land, which he was actively engaged in clearing and cultivating till his earthly labors were brought to a close by his death. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy Elliott. She was likewise a native of Virginia, and she, too, spent her last years in Orange County. There were nine children born to her and her husband, eight of whom grew to maturity.

The subject of this brief biography grew to man's estate in the home of his birth, reared amid pioneer scenes under the primitive conditions of domestic life in those early days of the settlement of Indiana. The food that he ate his mother cooked before the fire in a huge old-fashioned fireplace, and the clothes that he wore were homespun, the product of his mother's skill at the spinning wheel and loom. He remained an inmate of the parental household till he had attained manhood. In 1848 he came to Illinois to join a brother in Belle Plain Township, Marshall County, and was employed by him on a farm, and while living with him, he bought a tract of wild prairie land in 1850, located on section 3, Linn Township, which he has since developed into his present farm. He was a single man at the time so he did not settle on it,

although he at onee entered on its improvement, and in 1852 brought his bride here to dwell, and aid him in the upbuilding of the eomfortable, cozy home that they are now enjoying together in life's declining years. His farm comprises 160 aeres of exeellent farming land, under the best of cultivation, and amply provided with all the neeessary buildings, and every eonvenience for earrying on agriculture to advantage.

In the month of August, 1852 Mr. Wineteer and Mrs. Sophia T. (Hollenbaek) Mann were united in marriage. Mrs. Wineteer was born in Perry County, Ohio, Oetober 30, 1830, a daughter of Daniel and Martha (Thalls) Hollenbaek, for whose history see sketeh of Jaeob Hollenback. Mrs. Wineteer has been twiee married. She first wedded in 1849, Thomas Mann, a native of England, and an early settler of Marshall County. He died in 1850. Mrs. Wineteer had one child by her first marriage, Harriet Ellen, who died in infaney. Mr. and Mrs. Wineteer have six children living, as follows: Thomas L., a resident of Sedgwiek County, Kas.; Margaret Ellen, wife of Thomas Kerriek, of Sedgwick County, Kas.; Clarissa Amelia, wife of Gilbert Combes, of Linn Township; James D., a resident of Sedgwick County, Kas.; Jessie E. and George H. at home with their parents.

It is the united testimony of his neighbors and friends that Mr. Wineteer's course in life has always been so guided by principles of reetitude and honesty as to win the respeet and eonfidenee of all with whom he has dealings. He and his wife are devout Christians, he belonging to the Baptist Chureh and she to the Methodist Episeopal Church. In politics, he sympathizes with the Democratie party and gives it his hearty support.

MRS. SARAH (STANLEY) FISHER, a resident of Cazenovia Township, has lived in Illinois since 1835, and has thus been a witness of almost the entire development of this section of the eountry. She was born in Grayson County, Va., Sept. 10, 1821. Her father, Zachariah Stanley, was born in the same State. His father, the grandfather of Mrs. Fisher, was, so far as known, a resident of the Old Dominion all his life. Mrs. Fisher's father was reared and married in his native State, and was a resident there till 1830, when he removed to Ohio, and lived in Clinton County till 1835, when he once more started westward. He was aeeompanied by his wife and six children, and six other families. The removal was made with teams, the emigrants driving their stock, and eooking and camping on the way, and they arrived in Tazewell County in the month of September after traveling four weeks. The father was taken siek en route and died three weeks after his arrival at his destination. The oldest son took eharge of affairs then and rented a eabin, in whieh the family spent the ensuing winter, and in the spring he rented a farm. The mother resided with her children till her death, whieh oeeurred at the home of her son, in Whiteside County, many years after that of her husband. There were nine ehildren born to them, eight of whom grew up.

Mrs. Fisher was fourteen years old when she eame to Illinois with her parents, and remembers well all the ineidents of the long, overland journey and the incidents of pioneer life that followed. Her mother used to spin and weave and she learned that then useful art from her, and used to make the eloth for the family. After the death of her father Mrs. Fisher lived with different families till her marriage, whieh occurred Nov. 5, 1840, to Mr. Elias Fisher. He was born in Ohio, in Mareh, 1822, and was the son of Theodore and Martha (Dillon) Fisher. He was but seven years of age when, in 1829, his parents settled in Tazewell County, being amongst the first pioneers to loeate there. He was there reared to agrieultural pursuits, and after marriage purehased a farm three miles south of Tremont, lived on it till 1859, and then sold out there and bought 320 acres of wild priarie land in Cazenovia Township, and was a resident here from that time till his death, whieh oeeurred July 6, 1866. He had in the meantime improved and fenced all of his land, and ereeted a good set of frame buildings, and was living here, like the patriarehs of old, surrounded by his ehildren, with peaee and plenty on every hand.

There were six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, five of whom are now living, and residents of Cazenovia Township, as follows: Oliver married Sarah Carruthers, and has five children—Stephen Elias, Luella, Mark, Ora, Myrtle; Mary married Samuel Waggoner, and has three children—Ross, Delpha, Robert; Ira, of whom see sketch; Louisa married John White, and has two children—Mildred Bernice and Elva Mae; Jabez, the eldest, married Miss Maria Harper, they have four children—Lola, Ada, Ethel and May.

Mr. Fisher was a valued citizen of this township, in that he was industrious, possessed excellent judgment, and his integrity was of a high order. His wife is held in like estimation, her kind heart, never-failing sympathy, and true Christian spirit having won her a warm place in the hearts of those about her. She is a member of the Christian Church, to which her husband also belonged.

RICHARD PARNHAM. After many years of arduous industry spent in agricultural pursuits, this gentleman has retired from active labor, and is now enjoying the comforts of a pleasant home in El Paso, where he has resided since August, 1882. He settled in Panola Township, this county in 1864, and became one of its most successful farmers. He improved a tract of wild land, and has now 120 acres in a high state of cultivation. This is provided with good buildings, and in all respects presents the picture of the well-regulated estate, which yields the proprietor a handsome income.

A native of Lincolnshire, England, our subject was born in the town of Fullbeck, March 24, 1822. He emigrated to America in 1851, and lived in Utica, N. Y., until 1852. In the fall of that year he came to Illinois, and located in Farmington, Fulton County. In 1857 he moved to Peoria County, and thence moved to this county, with whose best interests he has since been closely identified. He is of substantial English stock from "away back."

Thomas Parnham, the father of our subject, was by occupation a farmer and general laborer combined, and spent his entire life in and around Fullbeck, England, where he died at the advanced age of ninety years. His father, likewise Thomas by name, was one of the yeomen of Lincolnshire, and lived to be over eighty years old. The family has always been noted for its longevity and as people generally of large and robust frame. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Ann Walker. She was a native of the same place as her husband, where she was born, reared, married and died, after having attained to the ripe old age of eighty. Both parents of our subject were devout members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

The subject of this sketch was one of a family of ten children, eight sons and two daughters, two of whom died young. The others lived to be married, and four besides our subject came to America, and settled in Illinois. Richard was reared to the hardest kind of farm work, which had the effect to develop his muscles and make of him an unusually strong and healthful man. He was married near his native town, at Broughton, Lincolnshire, England, Oct. 8, 1850, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of William and Ann Dike, who were Lincolnshire people, and spent their entire lives near the place of their birth. The father died while in his prime, when his daughter, Elizabeth, was a mere child. The mother died when Mrs. Parnham was little over two years old, and both were members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. They were the parents of two children only, both daughters. The sister of Mrs. Parnham is now dead.

Soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Parnham, in the spring of 1851, embarked at Liverpool, on the sailing vessel "Harmony," for the United States. After a voyage of five weeks they landed in New York City, and at once located in Utica, whence they subsequently removed to Fulton County, Ill. They began life poor in purse, but worked together with a mutual purpose in view, and in due time met with their reward. Having no children of their own, they adopted a boy, George Bell, who, upon attaining manhood, was married to Miss Sarah Scott, and lives on the farm of Mr. Parnham in Panola Township. Our subject, polit-

ically, on becoming a naturalized citizen, identified himself with the Republican party, and both he and his estimable wife are members in good stand- of the Methodist Church.

JAMES W. BLACKMORE, who is the owner of eighty acres of as fine farming land as can be found in this county, is a leading citizen of El Paso Township, residing on section 8. His birth occurred in Devonshire, England, March 29, 1829, and for generations past his ancestors were also natives of that land. His father, Richard Blackmore, was born in Devonshire, and for some years followed farming in that community. He was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Evans, who was also born in the same county, and was descended from pure English ancestry. They remained residents of their native land until called from the busy scenes of this life. Mr. Blackmore died May 1, 1876, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and his wife was called home Dec. 3, 1869, at the age of sixty-six years. Both were members of the Church of England.

Our subject was the eldest in a family of five children, and is the only one who is now living in this country. His sister, Mary, who emigrated to America in 1869, died at her home in Braidwood, Ill., Sept. 3, 1880, leaving a family of four children.

James Blackmore was reared and educated in his native land, and on attaining to man's estate, was united in marriage with Miss Emma Parkhouse, the wedding taking place on the 2d day of April, 1851. The lady was born in 1829, and reared in the same neighborhood where our subject passed his early life. She was also descended from an old and respected English family, and is a daughter of Thomas Parkhouse, who died at his home in Devonshire, Nov. 1, 1876. He was a farmer by occupation, and followed that business during the greater part of his life. His wife, whose maiden name was Susan Gard, was born, reared and married in Devonshire, and her death occurred in 1866, at an advanced age. The Parkhouse family were all members of the Episcopal Church in England. The children of this worthy couple were eight in number, three sons and five daughters, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, but only three of that number ever became residents of America—James is now engaged in farming in El Paso Township; and Annie, wife of Smith Stowell, died at the home of her sister, Mrs. Blackmore, Sept. 19, 1872, leaving two children. The eldest son of the family, Samuel Parkhouse, served for the long period of twenty-one years in the British army, and won a number of medals for bravery and meritorious conduct on the field of battle. He fought in all climes and participated in many important engagements. He took part in the Crimean War, and was one of the eleven of his regiment that escaped death or capture at the great battle of Inkerman: He yet makes his home in England.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore was celebrated April 2, 1851, and on the 16th day of the same month the young husband set sail from England for America, determined to try his fortune in the new world. He landed in Quebec in the month of June, and for one year worked in Genesee County of the Empire State. In September, 1852, following the course of human emigration, which was steadily flowing westward, he landed in Illinois, making his first settlement in Peoria County, where he remained until the spring of 1859, which witnessed his arrival in Woodford County. Since becoming a resident of Illinois, he has followed the occupation of farming, and on his arrival in this county purchased the farm on which he now resides. His landed possessions now amount to eighty acres of highly improved and cultivated land, part of which is situated on section 8, and the remainder on section 17, in El Paso Township. He is one of the prosperous and successful farmers of the county. At the time of his purchase the land was unbroken, but with characteristic energy he began its development, and soon well tilled fields yielded abundant harvests as a reward for his labor. His barns and outbuildings are all that are necessary to a model farm; the stock which he raises is of the best grades; the latest improved machinery is there found, and the

farm is well drained with over 500 rods of tile. The home place is pleasantly and conveniently situated near the corporation limits of El Paso, and the entire surroundings indicate its owners to be people of taste and refinement.

Three years after Mr. Blackmore had settled in this country, his wife followed him to the home which he had prepared for her, and by their united efforts since that time, they have secured a comfortable property. No children have been born unto them, but they have an adopted son and daughter—Frank J., who is now assisting his father in the cultivation of the farm; and Emma, wife of Warren Kent, who resides in Fairbury, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore are members of the Episcopal Church. Their home is noted for its hospitality, and they have a large circle of friends and acquaintances in the community. In his political sentiments Mr. Blackmore is a staunch Democrat, having supported the party since becoming an American citizen.

Thus have we given a brief sketch of the life of one of Woodford County's leading farmers, who is certainly well worthy of representation in this volume. He manifests a deep interest in public affairs, has taken an active part in the promotion of the general welfare, and has participated in the upbuilding of town and county. He is indeed a self-made man. On landing in Quebec, he was $15 in debt, but he at once began his search for employment, and his efforts were soon successful. He found work, and by industry and economy was enabled to acquire enough capital to invest in land. He is now numbered among the substantial and well-to-do farmers of the community, and has won the confidence and high regard of all by his upright life.

REINHOLD F. PUNKE. Panola Township numbers among its farmers and stock-raisers, no more worthy representative of its best interests than the subject of this biography. We find him pleasantly located on section 24 where he has improved a fine tract of land and erected substantial buildings. He is a gentleman in the prime of life, having been born Aug. 14, 1840, and is a native of Prussia, where he lived till a youth of nineteen years. He then determined to seek his fortunes on the other side of the Atlantic and set sail for America. He has become fully identified with the institutions of his adopted country and among the people of this county is considered an honest man and good citizen.

The parents of our subject were August and Dorothea (Gasniek) Punke, who were of pure German stock and the father spent his entire life on his native soil; the mother came to this country with her family and died here. Their family consisted of six children, all of whom are living and residents of Illinois and Germany. Reinhold F. Punke received a fair education in the German tongue and after coming to the United States, applied himself successfully to the acquisition of English so that he can converse intelligently and transact his own business. After leaving school he served an apprenticeship at cabinet-making which he followed in Germany until leaving there. He set out in the spring of 1859 on a sailing vessel from Hamburg, and after an ocean voyage of eighty-four days, landed in Quebec, Canada. From there he proceeded to Detroit and Chicago, and thence to LaSalle County, this State, where he was employed for a time on a farm near Mendota. Later he was a resident for a short time of Livingston County, and from there came to Woodford County, and for three years was employed as a cabinet-maker at El Paso.

In 1865 Mr. Punke turned his attention to farming pursuits and purchased eighty acres of land comprising a part of his present homestead and upon which he settled in 1866. Here he has since lived. He has added to the home farm so that he has now a quarter section well tilled and yielding abundantly. Besides this he has other land and in all is the owner of 320 acres. He has done a large amount of pioneer labor and experienced the hardships incident to life in a new settlement. He may be most properly termed a self-made man as he had to make his own way from the time he left school in his native Germany. His experience has

been valuable in that it has developed the best elements of his character, making him self-reliant and enabling him to maintain his position as a man among men.

Upon becoming a naturalized citizen Mr. Punke identified himself with the Democratic party, but in local matters votes for the men whom he considers best qualified for office, irrespective of party. He has served as School Director in his district for many years and has been frequently solicited to accept more important offices, but invariably declined. Socially, he is a member in good standing of the A. F. & A. M. of El Paso. He is generally esteemed as a liberal and public-spirited man, one in favor of everything to improve the county and elevate society. He is not connected with any church organization but is in sympathy with Lutheran doctrines.

Our subject was married in 1865 to Miss Wilhelmina Otto, and they became the parents of seven children, six of whom are living, viz.: Gustav Adolph, Henry Herman A., Emelia, Wilhelmina A., August R. and Clarence. Clara died when one year old.

PERRY BAKER is the son of an honored pioneer of Woodford County, who, during his life, aided in building up Partridge Township, and interested himself in every public enterprise that would in any way advance his township or county. Our subject has become closely identified with the agricultural interests of his native township, and in him Partridge finds one of its most skillful and wide-awake farmers. He is managing with excellent results the old homestead where he was born, and is keeping it up to the same high standard of cultivation and improvement that it had attained while under his father's supervision.

Chauncey Baker, the father of our subject was a native of Luzerne County, Pa., and was there reared and married, Julia A. Staley, a native of the same county, becoming his wife. In 1836 he started westward with his wife and the two children that had been born to them in their Pennsylvania home, and they made their way slowly across the wild country, forests, and prairies, cooking and camping by the way as night descended, and were three months making the journey to Illinois. On his arrival in this county, Mr. Baker made a claim on some land, but never entered it, subsequently buying other land on sections 2 and 3, Partridge Township, and in him the few pioneers that had preceded him to this region, found a welcome acquisition to their numbers, as he was a stalwart, able man, a good worker, capable of doing whatsoever he put his hand to; a kind and charitable neighbor, and full of true public spirit, pushing forward all schemes for the improvement of the township. When he first came here, there were no settlements on the prairies at all, the early pioneers having deemed the groves and the forests along the water courses the only fit places for habitation, not recognizing the value of the rich prairie soil, and the superior advantage it possessed over the timber land in not having to be cleared before cultivation. There were no railways here for many years, and Mr. Baker used frequently to team his grain to Chicago. Deer and wild turkeys were plenty, and the pioneers often feasted on them. Mr. Baker cleared a good farm, erected a substantial set of frame buildings, and made many other valuable improvements. In the comfortable home that he built up during his residence here of nearly half a century, he rounded out a long and honorable life in March, 1883. His wife survived him until 1888, her death occurring that year on the old homestead. There were ten children born to them, eight of whom are living—Louisa, Lavina, Juliet, Mary, Merritt, Amanda, Perry, and Sarah J. Lavina married John Snyder, of whom see sketch; Sarah J. is the wife of William Mau, living near Washburn, in Marshall County. The other sisters are living on the homestead.

Perry Baker, the only son now living, was born Nov. 6, 1852, and was reared on the farm that he now occupies, and educated in the public schools of his native township. As soon as large enough he began to assist his father, and gained from him sound practical instruction in the management of a farm. He always made his home with his parents

as long as they were spared to him, and has had full charge of the homestead a number of years. Everything is kept in good order, and Mr. Baker so conduets his farming interests as to seeure a good income.

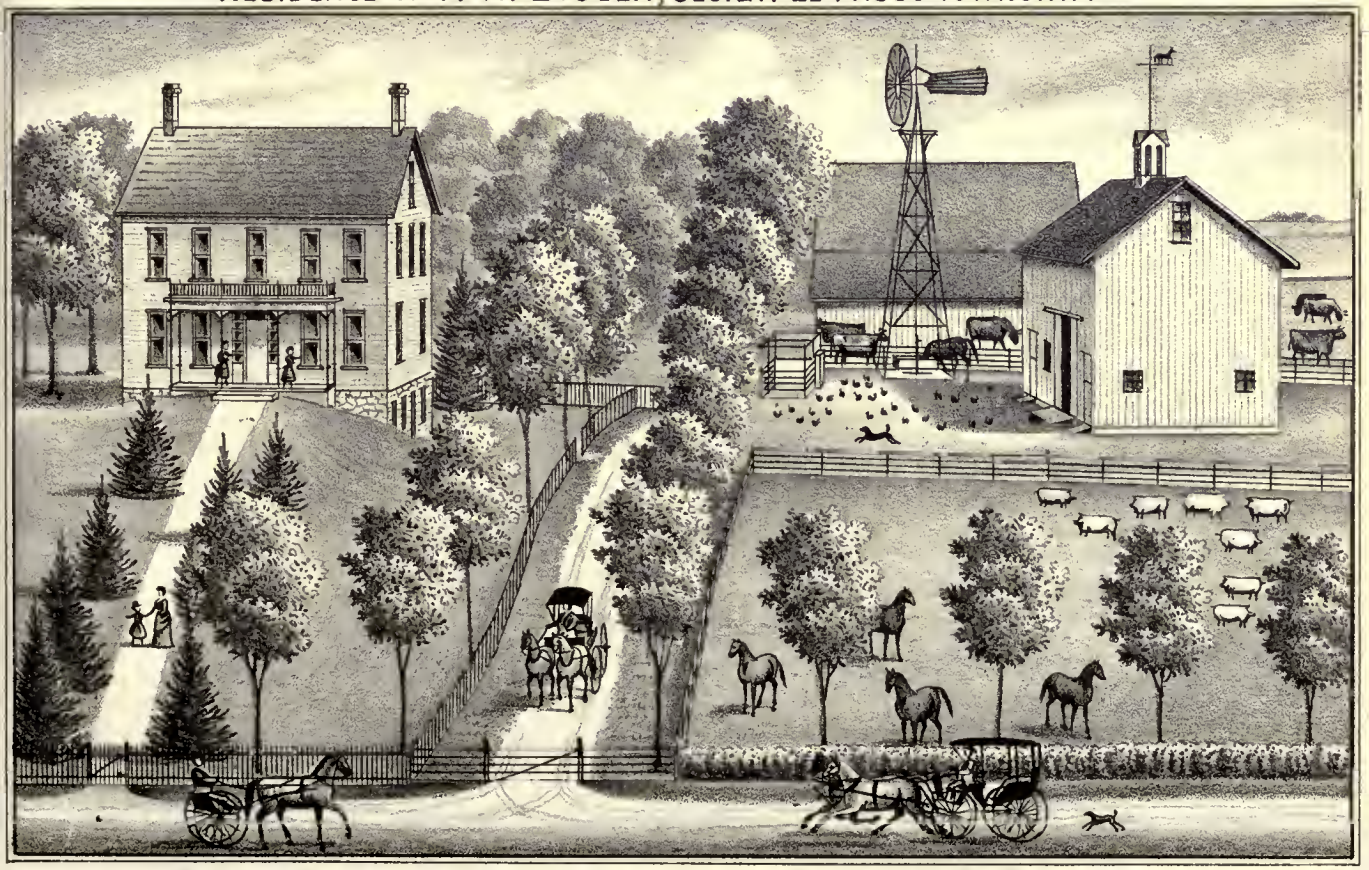
He possesses a judieious, well-balanced mind that enables him to earry on his work to the best advantage, and in the exeellent harvests that he reaps, and the well graded stoek that he breeds, he is well repaid for the amount of labor, time and money that he expends in the pursuits of his ealling. He is interested in politics National and loeal, and is a downright Demoerat in his views.

WBULLOCK was one of the first white children born in Olio Township, this event occurring Oct. 24, 1836. His father M. R. Bullock was a native of Woodford County, Ky., and married Sarah H. Soltanstall who was born in Christian County, that State. They eame to Woodford County, Ill., in 1834, settling in what is now Cruger Township. In 1875 they removed to Kingman County, Kan. Their family eonsisted of eight children of whom our subjeet was the fourth in order of birth. The latter aequired his education in the eommon sehools mostly, although he attended eollege for a time. He was reared to farm pursuits whieh he ehose for his life voeation. During the progress of the Civil War, he, in August, 1862, enlisted in Company E, 108th Illinois Infantry in whieh he served about three years. Upon the organization of the eompany he was eleeted Second Lieutenant and at the organization of the regiment was eleeted Captain of Company E, which he eommanded during his term of serviee. He participated in the battle of Spanish Fort, on Mobile Bay, March 27,1865 and was seriously wounded by a gunshot in the left thigh in eonsequenee of which he was rendered unfit for further service. Prior to this he had participated in the siege of Vicksburg and was in other important engagements. He was diseharged from the hospital and the serviee by a special order of the President. He then returned to this eounty and with the exeeption of the time spent as Sheriff, to whieh offiee he was elected in 1866, serving two years, he has given his attention wholly to agrieultural pursuits. He was at one time elected Highway Commissioner, but did not serve.

Mr. Bulloek was married in this eounty Aug. 15, 1872 to Miss Mary, daughter of William and Delilah MeCullough who were natives of Maryland. The latter were married in Pennsylvania whenee they subsequently removed to Virginia, and in 1855 to this eounty settling in Eureka. They are still living. Mrs. Bullock was the fifth in a family of ten children and was born in Virginia Aug. 26, 1850. She likewise is the mother of ten ehildren. Mr. Bulloek has taken an active part in politieal affairs and uniformly votes the Democratie tieket. His home farm ineludes 160 acres of land while he has other valuable farm property. His homestead is improved with good buildings and yields a comfortable income.

ALFRED ROGERS follows the oecupation of a farmer at his residenee on section 4, Minonk Townsliip. He is an intelligent, industrious and wide-awake gentleman, and has been a eitizen of this eounty sinee Mareh, 1887. He is a native Illinoisian, having been born in Belle Plain, Marshall County, Dec. 25, 1842, and is the son of Samuel and Sarah (Miller) Rogers, who were natives of Columbiana County, Ohio, and Westmoreland County, Pa. Our subjeet was a farmer's boy and spent his youth in the familiar scenes of eountry life, being educated in the common sehools of his home district, where he made such progress as the short terms afforded. He remained under the parental roof until he had reaehed his majority, when he engaged in agricultural pursuits for himself on an adjoining farm. He then removed to Bennington Township, Marshall County, where he resided for eight years; thence coming to Minonk, he established himself in his present location. Hcwever, before settling in Minonk he sold

RESIDENCE OF P. H. BIGGER, SEC. 21. EL PASSO TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF ALFRED ROGERS, SEC. 4. MINONK TOWNSHIP.

his farm of 120 acres, located in Marshall County, and used the proceeds toward defraying the expenses attendant upon the purchase of his present possessions, which consist of 220 acres of land all under a good state of cultivation and which he devotes to the purposes of general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Rogers and Miss Mary A. Gingerich, a daughter of Joseph Gingerich, were united in the bonds of matrimony Aug. 27, 1879. The father of Mrs. Rogers was a farmer of LaSalle County, Ill., his farm being located in Groveland Township. Mrs. Rogers is a native of Tonica, Ill., in which place her parents settled, when they arrived in this country from Germany, many years ago. Mr. Gingerich had previously worked as a farm hand in Pennsylvania and saved enough money out of his earnings to pay for his homestead in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are the parents of three interesting and loveable children — Nora Sarah and Cora Barbara (twins), and Wilfred Alfred. Our subject is an unswerving and stalwart Republican, and while a resident of Marshall County, held the office of School Director. Since his removal to Minonk he has served the educational interests of the township in the capacity of a School Trustee and a Director, and is also a Justice of the Peace. He has a pleasant, agreeable family and a comfortable home, a view of which with the surroundings appears in the ALBUM. All of his property has been secured by his own diligence and economy, as he had nothing when he started out in life for himself but a good constitution and a stout heart. A sketch of Samuel Rogers the father of our subject, will be seen in its appropriate place.

HENRY N. GROSS. Among the agriculturists and stock-raisers of Woodford County, a chief position is due the gentleman whose life-record is here given. He has for several years been a resident of this county, having come from McLean County, in 1881, to his present home, on section 20 of El Paso Township. Here he has a fine, well-improved farm of sixty acres, which although small is yet of the best, as regards fertility and cultivation.

The subject of this sketch was born in York County, Pa., May 8, 1838, where his parents, John and Elizabeth (Shafer) Gross, lived for many years. His grandfather, George Gross, also lived there, and was by occupation a farmer, being a native of Pennsylvania, but born of Holland parents. George Gross was united in marriage with Miss Felkr, a lady of American birth, but of Dutch descent. They lived the remainder of their lives, in their adopted home, and finally passed to their rest, when both had passed the boundary between youth and old age. They were good people, benevolent by disposition, and hospitable, as indeed all pioneers were, and members of the Lutheran Church. Among the children who were born to them was John, the father of our subject, and he was the eldest in the family of three. He was carefully reared in his father's home, and did whatever was at hand to do in the farm work. His early education was limited, but a careful course in reading after he had arrived at years of maturity, compensated for this early deficiency.

John Gross, while in early manhood, became the husband of Elizabeth Shafer, a native of Pennsylvania, descended from German parents. She was the daughter of John Shafer, who lived the greater portion of his life in York County, Pa., and died when ripe in years. Mr. Shafer was a successful farmer in Pennsylvania, and accumulated considerable real estate. After his marriage Mr. John Gross continued to labor as an agriculturist for many years in his native county, until he passed to his final rest in 1876, at the age of sixty years. The mother, after the death of her husband, came to Illinois, where she has since resided with her children in Woodford County. She has reached the age of seventy years.

Our subject was the fourth child in a family of seven, and he was reared in York County, and attended the district school when it was possible. He became of age in his native county, and in 1866 was induced to seek a home in the far West, as Illinois was then considered. From that time un-

til the year 1877 he was a resident of Menard County, Ill. Then he changed his location to McLean County, a change which, however, was not permanent, as in 1881 he sought Woodford County which has been his home ever since. Mr. Gross chose as his life companion, Miss Lizzie Stotler, the daughter of Andrew and Sophia (Sorber) Stotler, to whom he was married Feb. 8, 1881, in El Paso. She was born in Summerset County, Pa., Jan. 31, 1850, and when a young woman came to Illinois. She is now the mother of three children, namely: Lola B., Myrtie A. and Nora C., aged respectively, eight, six and four years. Although yet young in years they are receiving good educations, and bid fair to become in future years ornaments to whatever position they are called to fill. Mr. Gross has always been a strong supporter of Republican principles, and uniformly votes that ticket. Mrs. Gross, while residing Pennsylvania, became a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

DANIEL GRAFFT is a son of David and Anna (Grove) Grafft. The father is a native of Lancaster County, Pa., and the mother of Virginia. After marriage they settled in Preble County, Ohio, where they resided until their death. Their family consisted of ten children, three of whom preceded their parents to the silent land, seven remaining to endure the sorrows and enjoy the blessings of life. Our subject was the sixth child in order of birth. He was born Aug. 6, 1829, at his parents' home in Preble County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, making his home in the bosom of his family until he was twenty-one years of age.

In 1850 Daniel Grafft came to Woodford County, remaining one year. His mother taking sick about this time, furnished the occasion for his return to his parents' home in Preble County. On his mother's death he returned to this county, in the following summer, having been absent some six or seven months. He then entered 560 acres and spent his summer breaking the prairie. In the fall of 1853 he was married to Miss Dianah Grove, who was born Nov. 13, 1830, in Virginia. This union resulted in seven children: Albert M., William H., Abraham J., Mary E., John J. and David E. Albert M. is deceased and one child died in infancy. The parents of Mrs. Grafft were Abraham and Sarah A. (Griner) Grove, both natives of Virginia. They came to this county about 1835, making the journey in the usual style of pioneer times, settling in what is now Olio Township, where Mr. Grove died in November, 1868, being seventy-three years old. Mrs. Grove is also deceased. This couple had eleven children, of whom Mrs. Grafft is the third.

Mr. Grafft has pursued the occupation of a farmer during all his life, with the exception of three years spent in the service of his country during the late war. He enlisted in Company A, 129th Illinois Infantry, in August, 1862, bravely enduring the heat of the lowlands and making light of the hardships entailed by the frosts of the mountains, always endeavoring to be in the forefront of the battle; undaunted by danger and fearless of results, he upheld the starry flag throughout the fierce fighting of Chanttanooga, Resaca, Big Shanty, and throughout the continual assaults on the Confederate position before Atlanta, sharing in the wild enthusiasm with which Sherman's boys greeted the downfall of this key to the Southern Confederacy. Afterward at Peach Tree, Ark., he did yeoman duty, and shared the honors showered upon our returning soldiers. Coming North to Chicago, they were mustered out and honorably discharged, and our subject immediately returned to his home and family in this county, where his wife had bought a farm during his absence. This place he has added to his original possessions, owning at the present time 220 acres. By intelligent industry he has carefully improved his place, putting up buildings and fences, and planting orchards, etc.

In addition to growing the usual cereals and other useful products of a farm, Mr. Grafft pays attention to raising fine stock, including hogs, cattle and horses. Politically, he votes with the Republican party. He is a member of Dan Miles Post No. 270, G. A. R. Having always shown a deep interest in educational matters, his neighbors

have considered him fitted to look after school affairs, and have kept him in the office of School Director for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Grafft attend the Methodist Church, of which body Mrs. Grafft is an active and efficient member.

N. B. CRAWFORD, M. D., one of the oldest practitioners of this county, and the oldest resident physician of Eureka, is a native of Illinois, having been born on Crawford's Prairie, Franklin County, Sept. 1, 1839. His father, John Crawford, one of the earliest settlers of this county, was born in Virginia, whence he emigrated to Illinois as early as 1811, and occupied himself as a farmer and teacher combined. He was the first Sheriff of Franklin County, and died in 1847. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Randolph) Crawford, was born in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and died in Franklin County, Ill., in 1844. They were the parents of five children, of whom our subject was next to the youngest.

The early life of Dr. Crawford was spent on his father's farm in Franklin County. When a lad of seven years he was caught in a wind storm, during which a tree fell upon him and both his legs were broken. He, however, recovered from this accident and acquired a practical education, attending the common school until twenty years old. He then entered the Union Academy at Jonesboro, where he pursued his studies for a time, and then for two years was engaged in teaching. In 1862 he began the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. M. M. Goodman, of Jonesboro, with whom he remained one year. Later he was a student one year in the medical department of Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, and afterward he entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1865.

Our subject now returned to Illinois with the intention of joining the army, but changed his mind and located in Washington, Ill. Shortly afterward, however, he changed his residence to Eureka and began the practice of his profession, in which he has become very successful. He is an active member of the Democratic party, and, socially, belongs to William C. Hobbs Lodge No. 306, A. F. & A. M. He is also identified with the Chapter in Washington and the Commandery in Peoria. In religious matters he is identified with the Christian Church. He has for several years been a member of the Board of Trustees of Eureka College, and President of Woodford County Medical Society, aside from being a member of the State Medical Society.

Dr. Crawford was married in this county Oct. 22, 1868, to Miss Sarah J., daughter of the late Caleb Davidson, who was one of the pioneer settlers of this county, where Mrs. Crawford was born Oct. 22, 1843. Mr. Davidson was a native of Kentucky.

SAMUEL H. McCLURE, one of the representative farmers of Cruger Township, resides on section 36, and is Supervisor of the township. James McClure, father of our subject, and his wife Mary G. Campbell, were both natives of Kentucky, being of Scotch ancestry. After marriage they settled in Knox County, Ind., removing from there to Vermilion County, Ill., in 1827, and afterward changing their abode to Knox County, this State. Not being able to obtain a clear title to their land, they removed about 1830 to the vicinity of Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill. Then leaving the farm, they removed into the village of Washington, residing there several years, when they again removed, making Peoria their home for some time. Their next removal was to this county, where they bought a farm near Versailles, afterward moving to Oskaloosa, Iowa, and there lived about eight years. They then returned to Washington, Ill., in which place James McClure died in 1870. His wife laid aside her mortal body in Cruger Township, at the home of her son, our subject, April 23, 1879.

The father of our subject bore himself as a patriotic citizen of our country should, battling

bravely during the sanguinary campaign waged against the red men of the forest, gallantly charging under the intrepid Harrison, at the famous battle of Tippecanoe. The parental family consisted of ten children, Samuel H., being the sixth. He was born in Vermilion County, Ill., Nov. 2, 1827, going with his parents to Tazewell County, and afterward to Oskaloosa, Iowa. He remained under the parental roof until his eighteenth year, when he entered the employ of a mercantile firm in Washington, remaining with them about three years; he afterward engaged in the business of general merchandise, being employed by his father, and the firm of which he was a member, until 1856.

On June 11, 1856, Samuel H. McClure was united in marriage with Miss Missouri Meek, a daughter of Henry B. and Thena Meek, of Kentucky, who were among the first settlers of this county. Mr. Meek departed this life in Cruger Township, leaving his wife to the loving care of her daughter.

In March, 1855, Mr. McClure removed his family to Oskaloosa, Iowa, and engaged in the general merchandising business, carrying on a large and successful business for some seven years, when, tiring of the place, he came to this county, and settled in Cruger Township. Since that time he has been one of our most prominent men, employing himself in an intelligent oversight and operation of his large farm, also engaging largely in stock-raising. He owns in the county, something over 800 acres, and has erected a spacious and elegant home in the midst of fine grounds, over which his wife presides with dignity and grace. Mrs. McClure is a native of this county, where she was born April 7, 1836. Two children have been given to them, one of whom, Henry E., was laid to rest in his sixth year. The other, Miss Annie J., is a young lady of great amiability, and of a brilliant mind, being a graduate of the Eureka College.

Mr. McClure has been Supervisor of Cruger Township five terms, and in 1888-89, his fellow-members of the Board testified to their high appreciation of his merits, by electing him Chairman. He was Justice of the Peace for two terms, and has held a number of other minor offices in the township. He is an ardent politician, and has always taken an active part in political affairs, supporting in all proper ways the men and measures approved of by the Democratic party. Mr. and Mrs. McClure are intelligent and devoted Christian people, holding their membership in the Christian Church. A lithographic view of Mr. McClure's residence, appears elsewhere in this volume, and represents one of the most beautiful homes to be found in all Woodford County.

JOSEPH THEENA is a fine representative of our self-made men, as by his own efforts he has not only acquired a handsome competence, but has placed himself among the most prominent citizens of Metamora, whose interests he has been an important factor in promoting as a practical, successful business man, and as a farmer and an extensive raiser, buyer and shipper of stock. He has also increased his exchequer by dealing in land. In 1879 he bought the property where he now resides, and in 1888 built a large addition to the house, making it one of the most commodious and conveniently arranged dwellings in the vicinity.

Joseph Theena was born near the far-famed river Rhine, in Prussia, Jan. 17, 1840. His father, whose given name was Mathias, was a native of the same locality, and was there reared and married, Anna M. Poffenholz becoming his wife. He early learned the stone-mason's trade, which he followed in the Fatherland until 1846. In that year he determined to avail himself of the superior advantages possessed by America over the mother country, for a poor man to rise in the world, and crossing the Atlantic with his wife and three children, he made his way directly to Chicago, which was then a small place, giving no indications that it was destined in less than half a century to be the second city in size on this Continent. He stayed there but two years, and then removed with his family to Peoria, the journey being accomplished by team, as it was before the time of railways in this State. The first year he was employed at various kinds of work, and then resumed his trade of a stone-mason, besides

working at the brick and plaster-mason's trade. From the proceeds of his hard toil he purchased a comfortable home there, and was doing well financially, when the terrible war broke out. He laid aside all personal considerations, and cast in his lot with the other brave defenders of our country's honor, becoming a member of the 108th Illinois Infantry. He served faithfully with his regiment two years, and then, his health seriously impaired by the hardships of a soldier's lot, he returned home on a furlough, and died very soon afterward, thus sacrificing his life for the country of his adoption, as much as if he had fallen in battle. His widow survived him a number of years, her death occurring in October, 1885. That worthy couple had four children who grew to maturity, as follows: Anna, who married Robert Creters, and lives in Kansas; Margaret, who married John Goddard, and lives in Chillicothe, Ill.; Michael, also a resident of that city; and our subject.

The latter was the eldest of the family, and being but six years of age when he came to this country with his parents, he has but little recollection of his native home. He was reared and educated in Peoria, and early commenced to learn the trade of a butcher. He first engaged with John C. Calhoun, with whom he worked four years. He then was employed by Ralph Phillips, remaining with him eleven years. In the meantime he was very industrious and prudent, so that he was finally enabled to invest his earnings by establishing himself in business, and in 1869 he came to Metamora for that purpose, and has ever since been a most important factor in the community, contributing his quota to its advancement and material prosperity. On his arrival here he purchased a lot of land with the frontage of eighty feet east of the square, upon which stood a small building which he utilized as a meat-market, and at once commenced a successful career as a business man. That same fall Mr. Theena bought a residence three blocks north of the square, and in 1870 he bought three acres in the northeastern part of the city. In 1874 he made further investments, purchasing eighty acres of pasture land one and one-quarter miles north of the city, buying his present place of residence in 1879. In 1883 he bought fifty-six acres of improved farm land within the town limits, and in 1889 purchased thirty acres adjoining, and during the time he bought and sold various other tracts of land very profitably. In 1889 he rented his market, and at the present time is engaged mostly in farming, raising, buying, and shipping stock.

April 19, 1868, occurred a most important event in the life of Mr. Theena, namely his marriage with Miss Catherine Kalista, in whom he has found an admirable wife and helpmate. She was born in the city of Vienna, Austria, Nov. 11, 1847, a daughter of Joseph and Anna Kalista, natives of Austria. Mr. and Mrs. Theena have ten children living—Joseph W., Celia M., Michael F., Carrie K., Lillie B. and Ella J. (twins), John Leo, Emily M., George S., and Edward J. The family are devoted members of the St. Mary's Reformed Catholic Church.

Mr. Theena is a man of good habits and sterling principles; prompt and systematic in his method of conducting business, and always dealing fairly and honestly by all. In him Metamora has found an invaluable citizen, one who earnestly supports all schemes for its improvement, and gives liberally towards all worthy objects. A man of such fine traits of character cannot fail to make an honorable and useful public official, and his fellow-citizens, in just recognition of that fact, have selected him as a most desirable member of the Town Board, with which he has been connected for several terms, and is still, and is also Chairman of the Water Committee. In National politics, he is a supporter of the Democratic party, but in local affairs he acts independently.

JACOB STUMBAUGH, a general farmer of Palestine Township, residing on section 12, has for the past thirty years been a resident of this county. He was born in Franklin County, Pa., in 1820, and is a son of Peter and Betsy (Bowman) Stumbaugh, both of whom were also natives of the Keystone State. When he was a lad of fifteen years, the death of his mother oc-

curred, after which the father was again married. He later removed with his family to Ohio, settling in Stark County, where the death of both himself and wife occurred.

Our subject remained under the parental roof until attaining his majority, when he started out in life for himself. Believing that the West furnished better opportunities and advantages to young men than were afforded by the older States of the East, in 1848 he bade good-by to home and friends, and started for Illinois. He made his first location in Tazewell County, where he continued to reside for a number of years. At that time Woodford County was almost an unbroken wilderness, there being but few settlements, and Mr. Stumbaugh then thought that this part of the State would never become populated by white people. After some years passed, however, and he saw that the number of its inhabitants was rapidly increasing, he changed his mind, and at length came to the conclusion that in this once wild and unsettled region, he would make his future home. Acting upon that determination, he located in Woodford County, in 1859, and at once turned his attention to farming. He operated various farms until 1863, when he purchased eighty acres of land on section 12, Palestine Township, where he has since made his home. With characteristic energy, he at once began the development of the land, and now has the entire amount under a high state of cultivation, its well tilled fields paying a golden tribute to his care and labor. He has also made many useful and beautiful improvements, and the farm is considered one of the best in the township.

Mr. Stumbaugh was still a single man when he emigrated to the West, but on the 28th of May, 1858, in Peoria County, Ill., he led to the marriage altar Miss Eve Grove, a native of Indiana, born Dec. 29, 1832. Her parents, Jacob and Margaret (Housier) Grove, were married in that State, and while there residing, four children were born unto them, three of whom lived to mature years. In 1836, accompanied by his family, he came to Illinois, and settled near Washington, Tazewell County, where his death occurred several years later, about 1855, when in the prime of life. He is numbered among the pioneer settlers of Tazewell County, and was one who bore an active part in its upbuilding and advancement. He participated in its growth and progress, and when called upon to aid in the promotion of its public enterprises, liberally responded. Mrs. Grove was again married, becoming the wife of Philip Varble, both of whom passed away in Woodford County.

No children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Stumbaugh, but they have reared five adopted children, namely: Thomas Lilly, who was married, and has three children; Clarence E., Harry T., and Lula A., who have since the death of their mother, made their home with our subject and his wife; Ellen, who also found a home with this worthy couple, is now the wife of Stephen Thompson a resident farmer of Palestine Township. In politics, Mr. Stumbaugh is a Democrat. He and his wife attend the Christian Church, and hold a high position in the social world, being greatly respected by all who know them.

HENRY KINGDON. Among all the prosperous, influential residents of Woodford County, none are more worthy of representation in a volume of this character than the gentleman who is the subject of this review. Too much praise can scarcely be given to those, who, after years of toil, at last rest in the full fruition of their hopes of fortune, and secure from want, remain in their pleasant homes surrounded by loving and devoted children. That Woodford County is ranked among the best counties of the State of Illinois, is due in no small measure to the energy and foresight of Mr. Kingdon, who has given liberally of his means and of his time to promote the interests of the county, and who has always been in favor of any measure that tends to elevate the condition of society. He and his family occupy one of the finest country residences in all the county, and there welcome their many friends. Mr. and Mrs. Kingdon have been eye witnesses of the growth and development of the country around them, for when they became citizens of their pres-

ent home, the Indians were just retreating before the advaneing steps of the white man, and the light of their camp fires could even then be discerned in the far distance. In plowing up the field so lately abandoned by the savages, Mr. Kingdon often came aeross the relies of their presence in the shape of Indian arrows, etc.

Mr. Kingdon and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of whieh he has been a Trustee for a long time. Mrs. Kingdon is a very prominent member of the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society at El Paso, and contributes liberally to the maintenance of missionaries in foreign fields, and to the spread of the Gospel among heathen nations. Politically, Mr. Kingdon is an active supporter of the principles of the Demoeratic party, and has consented to hold at various times the office of School Director; but he eannot be prevailed upon to leave the pleasure of his happy home to enter the political arena, even though high positions were offered him. He justly eonsiders that the diseomforts and trials of public office are not compensated for by the gains, financial and political, to be derived therefrom.

The subject of this sketch was born June 7, 1830, in Devonshire, England, to Thomas and Ann Kingdon, also natives of England. He was the youngest of their children, and was reared after the usual manner of the boys of that day, devoting more time to outdoor, manual labor, than to eultivating the mind and developing the intellect. He did not have the advantages offered young men now, but by a eareful course of reading, and by keeping himself posted on the topics of the day, he is now one of the well-read men of the vicinity. That this is so is due only to his own efforts. He remained in the land of his nativity until the spring of 1852, when he was indueed to try his fortune in America. On the 3d of April, that year, he took passage from Plymouth, and embarking in a sail-vessel reached Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of one month, landing in the latter city on May 3d. He did not, however, remain in this British Provinee, but came to Genesee County, N. Y., and for a time worked as a laborer on a farm near Batavia. Subsequently, in the fall of 1854, he eame West to Illinois, and passed the winter in Kane County. The spring of 1855 found him a resident of Peoria County, Ill., which was his home until 1857, when he removed to Black Hawk County, Iowa, and there farmed for one year. In the spring of 1858 he returned to Peoria County, Ill., and there remained for one year. Again he changed his abode, but this time he was so pleased with the aspeet of the landseape, and the fertility of the soil, that it has been his last removal, and it is the hope of his many friends that no other will take plaee. When he first eame here he rented his present farm, which subsequent industry and business ability enabled him to purchase.

Perhaps the life of Mr. Kingdon would not have been so successful had it not been for the material assistance of his wife. Certainly it is true that it would have been a less happy one. With her he was united in marriage, Jan. 11, 1855, in Kendall County, Ill., and she has been a devoted, sympathizing helpmate ever since that time. Her maiden name was Mary A. Hodge, born Nov. 6, 1835, to Richard and Mary Hodge. Mrs. Kingdon, as also were her parents, is a native of Devonshire, England. She was early deprived of a mother's eare, her mother dying when she was only eleven years old. She remained with her father in England until she was sixteen years of age, when she came with her father and stepmother to America, and located for a time in Batavia, N. Y. In the fall of 1853 they sought the Far West, and made a home in Kane County, Ill. The latter part of the life of Mr. Hodge was passed in Woodford County, where he made many friends, and was universally esteemed and respeeted as one of the best citizens of the county. He was an early settler of th part of Illinois, and passed to his final rest in 18 death it was felt that one of the best eit county was taken away.

Mr. and Mrs. Kingdon became the
children, eight of whom survive, r
who beeame the wife of George
William H., Lewis C., Percy
George, Ella and Lillie; the two

Mr. Hodge, the father of M
marriages had five children
Mrs. Kingdon; Jane, wife

is a cousin of our subject, is a resident of California; Eliza, who married Thomas Down, of Iowa; Robert R., now residing in Iroquois County, Ill.; Elizabeth, who is the wife of John Santer, and living in Sumner County, Kan.

When Mr. Kingdon first came to Panola he purchased forty acres of wet, uncultivated land, so swampy as to be uninhabitable. This he reclaimed to a fertile condition, and now is the owner of 280 acres in this county, besides eighty acres in McLean County, Ill. In all, his real-estate comprises 360 acres of land, all improved and well cultivated. When he bought it there had been no improvements made, but it is now a home of which anyone might well be proud, especially as it is the result of his own industry.

ARTEMAS O. SHUR. In former years Mr. Shur was recognized as one of the leading business men of El Paso. He established its first bank in the fall of 1867, and was connected with it until 1879. He then withdrew his interests, and has since given his attention to the management of the large amount of real estate which he owns and controls. Aside from this, he is practically retired from active business, and is wisely spending his later years in the enjoyment of the property which he accumulated in his younger manhood.

In Morrow County, Ohio, our subject was born Jan. 4, 1837. He comes of substantial stock, his father having been William Shur, a native of Washington County, Pa., and of German extraction. The paternal grandfather, Jacob Shur, was likewise a Pennsylvanian by birth, and removed to the young commonwealth of Ohio about 1809, six years after it had been admitted into the Union as a State. He located in the woods of Chester Township, then Knox, now Morrow County, at a time when goods were obliged to be carted from Toledo and Zanesville, a distance of nearly 100 miles. He constructed a comfortable home by the exercise of arduous labor and great perseverance, and died about 1844, when sixty-eight years old. His wife, who in her girlhood was Margaret Porter, survived him many years, dying Nov. 27, 1876, at the advanced age of ninety-one, in Delaware County, Ohio. She was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, while grandfather Shur traced his ancestry to Switzerland. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and were of that kindly, hospitable and genial disposition which made them universally beloved and their home one of the favorite places of resort in that region.

The great-grandfather of our subject was Leonard Shur, a native of Germany, and who was educated for the Lutheran ministry. When twenty-one years old, he emigrated with a brother to America, settling at Little York, Pa., and was there married to Miss Mary Ishpaw, who was of German parentage, but it is not known whether she was born in Germany or America. In 1794 they removed to Washington County, Pa., settling on land now occupied by the town of Claysville, where it is probable they were among the earliest pioneers. Later they removed to Knox County, and when they were quite aged, changed their residence to what is now Shelby, in Richland County, where they were also pioneers. There they spent their last days, dying when quite aged.

Leonard Shur, after coming to America abandoned the calling to which he had been elected, and it is believed occupied himself in farming pursuits. To him and his good wife there were born nine children, five sons and four daughters, namely: Jacob, Simon, George, Leonard, Jr., William, Elizabeth, Mary, Margaret and Eve. All of these lived to be over seventy years old, and some of them passed beyond their ninetieth year. To Jacob, the grandfather of our subject, there were born eleven children by his wife, Miss Porter, whom he had married in Claysville, Pa., in 1803. Three children were there born to them—William, the father of our subject, who was born Sept. 17, 1806; John and Eliza. Upon removing to Ohio, they settled in what was then Knox, but is now Morrow County, and which was then quite a frontier. They put up a log cabin in the woods, which sheltered them many years, and during the War of 1812 were obliged to flee to the block house for protection

from the Indians. After the War of 1812 they still continued to live upon their farm, where the grandfather spent the remainder of his life.

To Jacob Shur, after his removal to Morrow County, Ohio, there were born eight children, namely: Maria, born Feb. 5, 1811, deceased; Belinda, May 26, 1814; Sarah P., June 20, 1818; Phebe Ann, July 23, 1820; Cyrus P., Oct. 22, 1822; Jacob Jackson, Nov. 18, 1824; Samuel P., December, 1826; and Milton M., Nov. 10, 1831. All these are living. William, the father of our subject, was quite young when his parents took up their abode in Morrow County, where he lived until attaining his majority. He at an early age gave indication of being possessed of unusually good business talent, and prior to his marriage began merchandising, and was very successful. He enlarged his business, establishing branches at different points, and at one time had five different stores, located respectively in Chesterville, Cardington, Westfield, Delhi and Newton, now Prospect. Different from most money-making men, he was very liberal, giving largely to various enterprises, and always anxious to accommodate his friends. He thus did not become wealthy, only accumulating a fair competence. Finally, on account of failing health, he repaired to Idaho Springs, Col., where his death took place of asthma and pneumonia, March 29, 1878. Politically, he belonged to the old Whig party until it was superceded by the Republican party, and in religious matters he was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Grandfather Jacob Shur was a stanch Democrat.

The father of our subject was married in Morrow County, Ohio, Dec. 6, 1832, to Miss Marilla Sweetland. She was born in Sunbury, Ohio, Sept. 14, 1810, and is still living, making her home with her son, our subject. She is now quite aged, but remarkably well preserved, and, with the exception of deafness, retains all her faculties unimpaired. The maternal grandparents of our subject were Artemas and Lydia (Abbott) Sweetland, who removed from Connecticut to Pennsylvania, and thence to Ohio, settling in what is now Bloomfield Township, Morrow County, where they were among the earliest pioneers. They hewed out a farm from the wilderness, became well-to-do, and there spent the remainder of their lives. Grandfather Sweetland was born in 1769, and departed this life in 1855. The grandmother was born in 1775, and died in 1863. Both were Methodists in religious belief. There were five children born to them, namely: Augusta, born Oct. 9, 1797; died in 1882. Giles, born Aug. 19, 1799; died in 1881. Fuller, born Sept. 9, 1801; died in 1867. Seth, born March 14, 1807; and Marilla, the mother of our subject, as above recorded.

Our subject is one of four children born to his parents, and of whom only two are living, the others having died in infancy, these latter being Elnora and Lydia. Columbus P., the only brother living, is a resident of Kearney, Neb. Mr. Shur received a practical education in his native State, and was Cashier of the First National Bank of Mt. Gilead, Ohio, for two years. Before that time he was manager of a general store in the Buckeye State. He was married in Morrow County, to Miss Hannah I. Weatherby, who was born near the line of Knox and Morrow counties, in Wayne Township, April 25, 1838. Her parents were Samuel and Doreas (Hinkley) Weatherby, natives of New York State, and born not far from Seneca Lake. There also they were reared and married and lived until after the birth of two sons—Peter and Lewis. Then leaving the Empire State, they removed to Ohio, early in the thirties, and began life amid the wilds of what is now Wayne Township, Knox County, where the father cleared a farm, and became well-to-do. He died May 5, 1852, at the age of forty-seven years, having been born March 10, 1806. He was a good man in the broadest sense of the term, affectionate and kind to his family and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he occupied many positions of trust and responsibility. He kept an open house for the itinerants through that section, and reared his children carefully in the doctrines of his church. The wife and mother was born Feb. 10, 1808, and died July 27, 1870, at the home of her eldest son, in Maysville, Mo. She likewise belonged to the Methodist Church. In Ohio there were born to Mr. and Mrs. Weatherby, Hannah I., now Mrs. Shur; Edmund, deceased; Joshua H. and T. Jefferson,

twins, the latter of whom is living and a resident of Seward, Seward Co., Neb.

The parents of Mrs. Shur gave their children an excellent education, she having been graduated in the High School of her native town, and attended Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa. Afterwards she attended the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where she was graduated with honors in June, 1872. She followed teaching for a period of eight years prior to her marriage. She is a lady of great natural refinement, and more than ordinary intelligence. Her union with our subject resulted in the birth of two children. Belle M. attended school in El Paso, and later attended the Chicago Female College at Morgan Park, from which she was graduated in June, 1884. She was also graduated from the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle in 1888. William W., the son, completed his education in the El Paso High School, and like his father before him, has taken kindly to mercantile pursuits, representing the house of Springate & Davis, of Chenoa, as salesman. Mr. Shur, politically, is an ardent supporter of Republican principles, and both he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

NICHOLAS S. DE REVRIES represents Panola Township on the Woodford County Board of Supervisors, which office he has held for several terms. He is one of the most enterprising and capable of the farmers in this section of Illinois, and his farm on section 17, Panola Township, replete with all the modern improvements, with its broad, finely cultivated fields yielding splendid harvests, is one of the best of the many choice farms within a radius of many miles.

Mr. De Revries is a native of Hanover, Germany, born in that Province July 2, 1843, a son of Stephen and Grace De Revries. He lived in his native country till he was about nineteen years old, receiving in the meantime a fair education and a knowledge of both the French and German languages. He has always been engaged in farming and stock-raising, and in the fall of 1862 he determined to take advantage of the rich opportunities offered to a skilful farmer on the broad, rich prairies of the West in America. He embarked on a steamer at Bremen, and after an ocean voyage of about fourteen days landed in New York City, at Castle Garden, and came directly to Woodford County, Ill., of which he has ever since been a valued resident. His parents accompanied him to America, and his father rented land for a short time in Roanoke Township, and then bought a farm in Minonk Township. The father died at the home of our subject April 27, 1885. The mother died at the home of our subject Sept. 19, 1866.

Our subject remained at home with his parents till his marriage, when he established his home on his present farm. This embraces 450 acres of land of exceeding fertility, which has been placed under high cultivation, and an excellent set of farm buildings have been erected, making the place one of the most desirable in all Panola Township.

To the wife who presides over his home and looks so carefully after the comfort of its inmates, Mr. De Revries was united in marriage May 22, 1872. Three children have blessed their union to them—Lnitjen, Stephen, Gracie. Mrs. De Revries' maiden name was Jenna Roelfs and she is also of German birth and anteeedents.

Since his settlement in Woodford County, Mr. De Revries has become one of our most popular and useful citizens. He has been a great reader all his life, a lover of good books, and aims to keep himself well-informed on all subjects, and he has gained a thorough mastery of the English language, and uses it as fluently as his mother tongue. He is energetic and public-spirited, and his hand is noted in the execution of all the schemes for the advancement of the township or county. His fellow-citizens, recognizing his ability and solid worth, have honored him and themselves by selecting him for the important office of County Supervisor, which position he has filled with satisfaction to his constituents and greatly to the benefit of his township and county. He has also been Justice of the Peace several terms, discharging the duties of that office with becoming dignity and firmness, his rulings being marked with wisdom and fairness. In

his political sentiments he is in harmony with the Democratic party as to the conduct of National affairs. He is, however, independent in his acts, and supports that candidate who in his judgment is best fitted for the office without regard to his political affiliations. He and his wife are both active members of the Evangelical Church, cordially cooperating with their pastor and fellow-members in all plans for the elevation of the social and moral standard of the community.

JOHN M. ERSKIN, a highly respected citizen of Piper City, Ford Co., Ill., departed this life Sept. 28, 1869, at his home in the above named place. He came of Scotch ancestry, although his parents were natives of Virginia, his own birthplace probably being in Ohio, where he was reared and obtained a fair education in the common schools of the district. In January, 1851, he and Miss Isabelle Kerns were united in marriage in Highland County, Ohio. Mrs. Erskin was born in the same county, Aug. 21, 1825, and is a daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Divens) Kerns, natives of Virginia, both of whom are now deceased, their demise occurring in Logan County, Ohio, when they were quite well advanced in years. Mrs. Erskin was reared on the farm of her parents, and divided her time between school and household occupations, in both of which she became quite proficient, and able to make a suitable companion for an intelligent business man. In her youth she attended the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which her parents were both members. She was the third of a family of ten children, seven of whom were daughters, all of them yet living and married. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Erskin began life on a farm in Highland County, and worked diligently to provide for themselves a comfortable home, and to give the children that were added to their family a good practical training as well as a liberal education. In 1865 they emigrated to Illinois, and located in Hudson Township, McLean County, where they secured a farm and operated it with their usual vigor for some years, when hoping to do better, they removed to Ford County, in which place Mr. Erskin died as before stated. The widowed mother was thus left with her large family of small children to support, and trusting to be better able to keep her family, removed to McLean County, where she occupied herself to the best of her ability, and with varying success until the fall of 1881, when she again removed, bringing her children to Woodford County, where she purchased 160 acres of improved land on section 28. This has since been their home, and they have by recent purchase added eighty acres more to their farm, the latter being located on another section, and occupied by one of the sons.

Mrs. Erskin is a fine intelligent woman, having good business capacity, making a good neighbor, and a kind, affectionate mother. Her children are named, respectively: Winfield Scott, who is at home and helps operate the large farm; William, deceased, at the age of twenty-nine years, and was unmarried; Sallie is the wife of Albert Stephen, a farmer in Ford County; Ella M. is at home assisting her mother in the domestic work of the house; Cassius C. resides on a farm in El Paso Township, and married Miss Josephine Griner, of this township; Frank E. is at home, and also helps in the work of the farm. Mr. John M. Erskin was a stalwart Republican in politics, and took a lively interest in both National and local political affairs. On all the questions agitating the voters of this republic, he was an intelligent controversialist. All of the sons are following in their father's footsteps, and are true to their party.

WILLIAM E. RICE comes of good old pioneer stock, his parents locating in Cazenovia in the early years of its settlement, his father being one of the men who were influential in giving it its name, and contributing his share in the labors of promoting its growth. We may remark in this connection, that an ancestor of our subject was one of the first settlers of the town of

Cazenovia, in New York, from which this township received its name. The old homestead on which our subject was reared, now forms a part of his landed property, to which he has added by further purchase, making it one of the most desirable estates in the neighborhood in point of location, productiveness, and all that goes to make up a good farm.

Mr. Rice was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Aug. 21, 1833. His father, Elisha Rice, was born in the same county as his father, bearing the same name, who was a pioneer farmer of the county, spending his last years in the town of Pompey. The father of our subject was reared to the life of a farmer in that town, and after marriage carried on that calling in his native county, until 1842. Then, hoping to better his financial condition, he sold his property there, and accompanied by his wife and four children, came to Illinois, the removal being made with teams. The monotony of the long journey was broken up by a week's visit in Michigan, and then the travelers set forth again, and at Chicago stopped to get their household goods that had been shipped to that point, and on the 15th of June they arrived at their destination at Woodford County. Mr. Rice rented a house for the shelter of his family, while he looked around for a suitable location. During the year he bought an 80-acre tract of wild land now included in the farm owned by our subject. It was in a state of nature, not a sod of the prairie having been turned, and a part of it was covered with brush. He was in very limited circumstances at the time, and after he had paid $250 for his land, had but fifty cents left, which he invested in nails to build a house, he having bought the material for it on time. In those pioneer days when money was a scarce article, it was quite a different thing to be without it, from what it would be at present, for those sturdy, courageous, self-reliant settlers were men of resources, and, indeed, in the abundance of deer, wild turkeys, prairie chickens, and other wild game, had a supply of food scarcely attainable now a days, and in the absence of flour, corn-meal was a useful substitute. And in matters of dress, people had not acquired extravagant tastes, and instead of silks and satins, were clad in plain homespun woven by the mothers and daughters. There were no railways here for many years after the country was settled, and the father used to add to his exchequer by teaming for others, taking grain to Chicago, and whenever he could do so, bringing back merchandise or lumber on his return trip. He was present at the meeting when his fellow-pioneers gathered together to decide on a name for the township. Several names were proposed, among them Marcellus and Pompey, but all were voted down, until some one from Marcellus suggested Cazenovia, and Mr. Rice exclaimed, "Cazenovia it is," and the name was adopted. Mr. Rice was an honored resident of this township until his demise in 1863, and he ever took a warm interest in its welfare. His wife preceded him in death, dying on the home farm in 1862. Her maiden name was Rebecca Marshall, and she was a native of Connecticut. Her father, Simeon Marshall, was a native of the same State, and moving from there to New York, he became one of the first settlers of Cazenovia. He opened the first store there, and was a pioneer merchant of the place, continuing in the mercantile business several years. He spent his last days on a farm near that town. The parents of our subject had three other children besides himself: Helen M., wife of George Ramley, of Marshall County; Rosanna, who always lived with her parents, and still makes her home on the old homestead with her brother; Deleney F., wife of Alexander Piper, of Livingston County.

Our subject was a lad of eight years when he came to this county with his parents, and he grew up with the county, it having been his good fortune to witness almost its entire development from its native wildness, and he has always resided on the old homestead, and since it came into his possession, has made many valuable improvements. He has a well-appointed set of buildings, and in 1888 he erected his present comfortable dwelling. He has increased the original acreage of the homestead, and now has a fine farm of 336 acres, all under admirable tillage, and yielding abundant harvests. Mr. Rice is skillful in his calling, and by well-directed and incessant labor, has managed to accumulate a comfortable property. He is a man of steady habits, is a kind and helpful neighbor,

and is in every way to be relied on. He is a loyal and law-abiding citizen, interested in the welfare of his country, and he has always affiliated with the Democratic party, which finds in him a true supporter.

GEORGE L. KAMP, who resides on section 22, Greene Township, is engaged in general farming. He was born in Richmond Township, Berks Co., Pa., Jan. 15, 1828, and is a son of Jacob and Catherine (Layman) Kamp. The family is of German descent on both the paternal and maternal sides. David Kamp, grandfather of our subject, emigrated from Germany and became a a resident of Berks County, as did also Daniel Layman, the maternal grandfather, who was a Lutheran minister.

The father of our subject served his country in the War of 1812, and was a faithful soldier. By trade he was a cabinet-maker, and in connection with that occupation engaged in iron mining in his native county. He accumulated considerable property, but afterward failed in business, losing it all. In 1838 he removed with his family to Ohio, being then in very limited circumstances, and upon the children devolved the care of the parents, who were then in advanced years. Mr. Kamp had not sufficient health to regain his lost property, and in 1869, at the age of seventy-five years, his death occurred. His wife, who nobly shared with him his trials and adversities, died in 1874, at the age of seventy-eight years. Their family numbered the following children: Daniel, John, Jacob, Eliza, David, Harriet, Catherine, George L., Isaac, Augustus, Sarah Jane, Samuel, and one who died in infancy.

George L. Kamp, whose name heads this sketch, is numbered among the self-made men of the county. His education was limited, he having had no opportunity to pursue a course in the public schools, as at an early age he was forced to earn his own livelihood. He was but ten years old when the family removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, and two years later began working as a farm hand for $3.25 per month, giving his wages to his parents to aid in their support. Until twenty-three years of age he continued to work in that line, when he embarked as a carpenter. He possessed the necessary strength for that occupation and soon became an expert workman. It was while working as a carpenter in Pickaway County, Ohio, that he became acquainted with the estimable lady, Miss Susanna Driesbach, whose hand he sought in marriage. Their union was celebrated on the 20th day of November, 1851, since which time she has proved a true helpmate to her husband. Mrs. Kamp was born in Union County, Pa., March 4, 1828, and is a daughter of the Rev. John and Frances (Eyer) Driesbach, who were also natives of the same county. Her father was one of the first ministers in the Evangelical Association, and was twice married. When she was a child of three and a half years, the family removed to Pickaway County, where the days of her girlhood were spent. The educational advantages which she received were limited, but placing her books before her, she would con her lessons while working at the loom. She had five brothers and seven sisters. Soloma, the eldest, who now resides in Ross County, Ohio, is the widow of Henry Brookwalter, a farmer, by whom she had five children; Elizabeth is the wife of Benjamin Steely, a farmer of Pickaway County, Ohio, and to them were born eight children; Abraham, who was born in Seneca County, Ohio, and died leaving a wife and nine children, was connected with the Evangelical Association from his childhood until his death, and for many years was an itinerant minister of that denomination; Isaac, a resident farmer of Pickaway County, Ohio, is married and has seven children; Catherine is the wife of the Rev. Lewis Einsel, and resides with her husband and family of seven children in Holdredge, Phelps Co., Neb.; Sophia wedded Eli Luce, a local minister of Monroe County, Mich., and to them have been born ten children, six living; Jacob, who is married and has five children, was for two terms Superintendent of the Orphan's Home at Flat Rock, Ohio, and is now residing in Carthage, Mo., near where he was formerly engaged in farming, but now living in retirement; Leah became the wife of D. B. Wagner, a grocer of Circleville, Ohio, and to them have been born

four children; Martin, a wealthy citizen of Circleville, Ohio, owner of a seed and implement store in that city, and also of several farms in that community, is married and has three children; John wedded Mary Reedy, by whom he had three children, and died on his farm in Pickaway County. The above mentioned members of the family were all born in Pennsylvania, and the following were born after the emigration to Ohio: Fannie, widow of Louis Speckler, who now resides with her five children in Salina, Kan; and Martha, wife of Dr. W. C. Gildersleeve, of Denver, Colo., by whom she has five children.

Mr. Driesbach, father of Mrs. Kamp, was an itinerant minister of the Evangelical Church, and traveled throughout different counties in Pennsylvania and Ohio, where he preached the Gospel and did missionary work. He was a prominent citizen, and while residing in the Keystone State served for two terms in the State Legislature. At that time he was a Democrat, but afterward supported the Whig party. He died at his home in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1871, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife, who was an earnest Christian lady, highly respected by all who knew her, died in 1876, at the age of eighty-five years.

After their marriage Mr. Kamp and his bride began their domestic life on a farm in the county where their wedding took place. He there worked at his trade of carpentering until 1857, when he removed with his wife and three children to Woodford County, where he has since made his home. On his arrival he purchased eighty-five acres of land in Greene Township, but as his financial resources were increased, he added to that amount until his landed possessions now aggregate 174 acres, 160 of which is situated on sections 22 and 23, while the remaining fourteen acres, consisting of timber land, is on section 29. His property has all been acquired through his industry, frugality and perseverance, supplemented by the assistance of his excellent wife.

Six children graced the union of this worthy couple, four of whom are yet living: H. Flora, who married W. T. Hereford, a farmer of Bates County, Mo., by whom she has nine children—Arista G., Estella M., Orville W., E. Earl, Daisy G. and F. Carl (twins), Edna P., Burr C., and George L. The next of the family, Joanne E., is the wife of Thomas Patterson, express agent of El Paso, and they have a daughter, Nellie G. Lewis D., who resides on the homestead, married Sarah E. Mohr, and their family numbers three children—Laura M., Homer M. and George L. Martin D., the next younger, died at the age of twenty-three months; Frances C. is the wife of Sidney L. Mohr, a resident farmer of Greene Township, by whom she has two children—Clarence E. and Harry Harrison; Cassie M., the youngest of the family, died at the age of one year.

In early life Mr. Kamp was a Democrat, but in 1856 supported Fremont, and since that time has voted with the Republican party, of which he is now a warm advocate. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical Association of El Paso, Mrs. Kamp having united with that denomination when only twelve years of age. They take an active part in religious and temperance work, and are highly respected by those who know them.

ANDREW TOMB, SR., an early settler of Metamora Township, has been greatly prospered in his agricultural pursuits, and while actively assisting in the development of this part of Woodford County, has placed himself among its substantial, well-to-do citizens. His farm on section 26 is a fine one, replete with all the modern appointments, and with its neat and tasty buildings, forms a pleasant picture in the landscape, and here he and his family have a cozy attractive home.

Mr. Tomb is a native of the County Derry, Ireland, born in the year 1819, on the same farm that had been the birthplace of his grandfather, Alexander Tomb, and of his father, Andrew Tomb, they spending their entire lives there, prosperously engaged in agricultural pursuits. The grandfather was a member of the Episcopal Church and brought his children up in that faith. The mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Jane Willey,

was also also a native and life-long resident of County Derry, Ireland. She and her husband reared a family of six sons and five daughters, four of their children settling in America, as follows: Mathew, now deceased (see sketch of J. W. Tombs); Margaret, who married Michael Larkin, and now lives in Pittsburg, Pa.; Anna, who married Elwood Kelly, and lives in Philadelphia, Pa.; and our subject.

The latter, of whom we write, passed his early life among the pleasant scenes of his birth, but being an ambitious, wide-awake lad, desirous of seeing something of the world and making his way in it to an honorable independent position, he determined to try life in America, and when about nineteen years of age he crossed the ocean and landed in New York, poor in pocket, but rich in spirit, health and a willingness to toil for his daily bread. He soon found employment in a machine and boiler shop, where he spent the next four years of his life. He then made his way to Ohio and there worked on a farm. In 1849 he caught the gold fever that was then so prevalent and started with the tide of travel for the gold fields of California, going by the Strait of Magellan. While on the Pacific coast he was twice employed in a mail steamer that plied between San Francisco and Panama, and the remainder of the time he was engaged in mining. In 1853 he retraced his steps eastward to New York, and was there married to Elizabeth Tomb, a daughter of William and Susan (Carson) Tomb. She is, like himself, a native of County Derry, Ireland, and the newly married couple went back to their old home and spent a year among the happy scenes of their childhood. They then returned to this country and came at once by rail to Peoria, and thence to Washington, then the terminus of the railway. It was Mr. Tomb's purpose to give his attention to farming in this then sparsely settled, wild country, which he shrewdly foresaw was one day destined to be a rich agricultural region. Deer roamed at will over the prairies and could frequently be seen in large droves, and they often furnished a feast for the skillful pioneer huntsman's table. Our subject rented land for nearly four years and then invested in his present farm on section 26, Metamora Township. It was wild land when he located on it, but he has placed it all under cultivation, has erected an excellent set of frame buildings and planted both fruit and shade trees. Some of the beautiful trees that adorn his farm he brought from Ireland in his trunk, and they have grown and thriven as if on their native sod and are pleasant reminders to him and his wife of their old home across the sea. The pleasant wedded life of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of eight children, of whom the following six are living: Mary, William, Andrew, James, Alexander and John. Mrs. Tomb is a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church, which the other members of the family also attend.

Mr. Tomb possesses practical wisdom and forethought so combined with those useful qualities of thrift, prudence and steadiness of purpose, that, although he landed in this country a poor boy, he has secured a competence, a comfortable home, and has, indeed placed himself far above want and poverty among our substantial moneyed citizens. During his long sojourn in this land of his adoption he has made many good friends and is well liked by the entire community for those genuine qualities of head and heart that mark him as an honest man and a good citizen.

GEORGE J. WAGGONER, M.D. The science of homeopathy has no more ardent or intelligent disciple than the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch. He is a resident of Minonk, and has been numbered among the prominent citizens and principal physicians of that city since his arrival there in 1877.

Dr. Waggoner comes of English stock, some of his ancestry having emigrated to America at an early date prior to the Revolutionary War. His paternal grandfather, George Waggoner, Sr., was a native of the Empire State, and was an officer in the American ranks during the period of the Revolutionary War and aided other patriots to free

his country from the hands of the oppressors. He was an eye-witness of that scene, famous in the annals of American history, where the Stars-and-Stripes waved most gloriously and the eagle of freedom perched most victoriously on uplifted banners. This was the siege of Yorktown, with its grand culmination — the surrender of Cornwallis. After peace had once more returned to the country Grandfather Waggoner went back to his home. In 1810 he changed his location to Canada, where he passed the declining years of his life and where he died at the age of eighty years. He had reared a large family and had so well prepared them for their life work that they were able to go forth buckled for the contest.

It is believed that Joseph Doan, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born in England and at an early age came to the United States. Being of strong English sympathies he was opposed to the colonists in their efforts to gain freedom and served as an officer in the British Army. With those of his belief he fought until the war was closed and the treaty of 1783 was signed. Upon the disbanding of the armies Mr. Joseph Doan settled in Bucks County, Pa., and later went to make his home in Canada. This was in the early part of the present century, and in his chosen home he passed the rest of his life and died when he lacked only six years of having completed a century.

Among the children born to George Waggoner, Sr., and his wife, was George, Jr., the father of George J., our subject. George Waggoner, Jr., was born in Cayuga Co., N. Y., and there grew to years of maturity. He then chose agriculture as an occupation, and was also an active practical miller. He married Miss Mary Doan, daughter of Joseph Doan. She was born during the sojourn of her parents in Bucks County, Pa., and was united in marriage with George Waggoner, Jr., in Walpole, Canada, he having come there with his parents when a lad ten years of age.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Waggoner, Jr., lived in the old homeplace until 1854, when they came West to Dubuque, Iowa. Many years of their life were passed in that bustling city, where they endeared themselves to all around them by their hospitality, kind-heartedness and generosity. The father in 1873 returned to Canada on a visit and there passed away at the age of seventy-three years. His wife survived him nine years and also died while on a visit with old friends in Walpole, Canada. She was then eighty-one years of age.

Nine children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. George Waggoner, Jr., of whom the record is as follows: Matilda, Electra, George J., Mahlon D., Esther, Adelaide, Calvin C., Melanethon R. and Charles W. Matilda married Thomas H. Harris, and died in 1866 in Wyoming, Iowa; Electra became the wife of Francis Buckley, and resides in Walpole, Canada; George J., the subject of this sketch, was the third in his father's family; Mahlon D. resides in Ellington, N. Y., and is a practical successful farmer; Esther married Lucius B. Hitchcock, a physician of Comanche, Iowa; Adelaide was the wife of Samuel Woodward and passed to rest in Iowa; Calvin C. was a physician and died in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1867; Melanethon R. is a prominent doctor in DeWitt, Iowa; the youngest in this family, Charles W., died in boyhood.

He of whom we write was born in Walpole, Canada West, May 13, 1831, and was the son of George and Mary (Doan) Waggoner. His youth was passed in the quiet pursuits of the farm and also in the sawmill, which his father owned and operated. His education was received in the common schools of Canada. In May, 1850, he removed to New York State, and soon after commenced to study medicine with Dr. O. L. B. Main. From his youth the science of medicine had attracted his attention as opening a field for the most profound study and the deepest thought. To cure the ills that are common to humanity seemed to him a gift for the accomplishment of which much toil and labor might fitly be spent. He took a thorough course of training, attending lectures at Ann Arbor, Mich., where he took three courses. In 1855 he was graduated from the Homeopathic Medical College in Pennsylvania. He has practiced in various places, being located at Dubuque, Iowa, for one year, and for the same

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length of time in Ogdensburg, N.Y., but disliked the climate of the latter city and so removed West to Wyoming, Iowa, where his father was interested in lands. His next field of labor was in Maquoketa, in the same State, and there he lived for ten years. After one year in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, he located in Minonk, his present home.

Dr. Waggoner has given his whole attention to his profession, with the sole exception of two years when he was General Agent for an insurance company. He is an enthusiast in his labor, and devotes his time to it to such an extent that he has never joined any society either civic or religious. He, however, generously aids any project that is conducive to public advancement. He supports the Democratic party and usually votes that ticket.

The first marriage of Mr. Waggoner occurred February, 1855, his wife being Martha A. Thatcher, a daughter of Charles Thatcher, of Western New York. She died in 1863, leaving three children: Charles T., M.D., of Chicago, George W., a physician of Cora, Pa., and Althea M., who is the wife of Mr. Hanks, of Kent, Ohio. The second marriage of our subject occurred in 1873, when he was united in the bonds of matrimony with Nettie H. Haran, a native of Logansport, Ind., and the daughter of M. Haran, a hardware merchant of that city. She is a lady universally esteemed and highly accomplished, and is a valuable social addition to the village in which she lives.

HON. A. H. BRUBAKER, for the past thirty-three years has been a resident of Greene Township, and now resides on section 4. He is not only the most prominent citizen of the township, but is also a leading man in the county, where he has made his home since early manhood. He has been connected with its progress and development, its public enterprises and its leading business interests, and his sketch will be perused with pleasure by his large circle of friends.

Mr. Brubaker was born on the little Conestoga Creek near Lancaster, Pa., on the 11th of April, 1833, and is a son of Jacob B. and Anna (Huber) Brubaker. The family is descended from Swiss ancestry, and the progenitor in America was the great-great-grandfather of our subject, who became a resident of Lancaster County, Pa., during the Colonial days of our history. His descendants are now widely scattered throughout Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; also in Kansas and other Western States. They were principally followers of agricultural pursuits, but here and there, among the members is numbered a professional man of prominence. Longevity is characteristic of the family, many of its members having attained very advanced ages. The grandfather of our subject was eighty-seven years of age at the time of his death, which occurred in Lancaster County, Pa. In that county the Brubaker family were prominent farmers and among the heaviest tax-payers. From the *Examiner* and *Herald*, published at Lancaster, we read that there were 156 tax-payers by the name of Brubaker.

Jacob Brubaker, father of our subject, like most of his kinspeople for generations, followed the occupation of farming, and was a prominent and influential citizen of Lancaster County. By his marriage with Anna Huber, eight children were were born as follows: Mary A., Aaron H., Samuel, Sarah A., Jacob, John, Hiram and Anna.

Hon. Aaron H. Brubaker, of this sketch, spent his early life in his native county, and in its public schools received his education. In 1854 he was married to Miss Catherine Snyder, a native of Lancaster County, where their wedding was celebrated. Two years later, in 1856, with his young wife he started for the West, determined to try his fortune on its broad prairies. He stopped for a short time in Chicago, but soon afterward continued on his way to Freeport, then to Peoria, whence he came to Woodford County. The prospects of the county were pleasing and he resolved to make it his future home. He purchased of the Illinois Central Company 160 acres of land on section 4, Greene Township, and that year made a permanent location on his farm. The whole section of the country round about was unbroken prairie, and the family were forced to endure the usual hardships incident to pioneer life. He not only witnessed the transfor-

mation wrought by civilization and progress, but has been a central figure in the work of advancement and development which has been steadily carried forward since the county was settled. Few men have done more for the upbuilding of the community and the promotion of its interests, and to him the honor bestowed upon the successful pioneer is due.

February 9, 1864, Mr. Brubaker was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, who died leaving four children now grown to manhood and womanhood: Maria, the first born of the family, wedded B. G. Zirkle, a farmer and carpenter of Wallace County, Kan., by whom she has five children—Henry ,May, Minnie, Nora and Emma; Aaron, a resident farmer of Dawson County, Neb., married Ida Huxtable, and they have two children—Lora and Jennie; Hiram, who is engaged in the grain business in Benson, is the husband of Lyda Tool, and their family numbers three children—Edna C., Leroy and Chelsie; Sarah, wife of Joseph Wells of Dawson County, Neb., has two children by her marriage—Orville and Ernest. Mr. Brubaker was a second time married Dec. 6, 1866, when Miss Elizabeth Brubaker became his wife. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, and with her father came to this county in 1851. Her mother died in 1852, and after her marriage the father made his home with Mrs. Brubaker until his death in1881. Six children grace the second union—Henry C., Emma M., Minnie E., Jennie A., Clarence M. and Nettie Pearl. The family circle remains unbroken and all the children are with their parents.

Mr. Brubaker is one of the large farmers in Woodford County, his possessions aggregating 327 acres, 160 of which are situated on section 4, eighty on section 8, and eighty on section 9, all in Greene Township. His premises have the appearance of a fair-ground. No finer farm can be found in this section of the country. Every necessary improvement and convenience is there seen and the family residence, situated only a few miles from Benson, is a beautiful home, surrounded by all the comforts and luxuries which make life worth living. His farm is an evidence of the thrift and prosperity of the owner, and tells of a refined and cultivated taste. Through wind-mill power in the ingenious arrangement of a perfect system of water supply, not only are his barns and cattle supplied, but his house and kitchen as well. Annually he ships and feeds about a car load of cattle, and sells from fifty to 100 hogs per year. As a stock-dealer he gives the same careful attention to his business that is displayed in the management of his farm, and it is needless to say is successful. Other important business interests also occupy his attention. In 1873 he embarked as a grain-dealer in Roanoke, where he carried on operations for two years, and in 1874, under the firm name of J. B. Miller & Co., engaged in the same enterprise at Benson, where he built a large elevator. In 1878 the firm also rented the elevator of S. C. Bartlett & Co., of Benson, since which time he has superintended their business. He now has charge of two elevators and handles about 400,000 bushels of grain annually. In 1874 he began shipping live stock, and in 1879 established a coal yard at Benson. About 1884 he embarked in the mercantile business, which he carried on until 1887, when he sold out, and the following year established a lumber-yard at the same place. In the various enterprises which he has followed he has been eminently successful, and honesty and fair dealing have characterized his entire business career. He has shipped grain extensively to the South and East, and during his long experience has handled millions of money. He is energetic, capable and sagacious, and possessing business qualifications of a high order, has become one of the wealthy citizens of the county.

Mr. Brubaker is a charter member and stockholder in the El Paso Agricultural Association,which was organized in 1879, and is now serving his second term as director of that institution. In politics he is an inflexible adherent of the Republican party and an advocate of its principles. In 1878, 1879 and 1880 he served as Supervisor, and held that office again in 1888. In 1868, without solicitation, he was nominated County Judge, but was unsuccessful. For nine years he served as President of the Roanoke Fire Insurance Company, which association he was instrumental in organizing. In 1886 he was elected to the State Legislature and served one term. His county is strongly Democratic, but his capability and popularity led to his election,

and his course justified the confidence reposed in him. During his service he introduced many bills of importance, some of which were passed, some defeated. He was the originator of the bill, which passed both Houses, providing for three terms of general county court in Woodford County, against one as previously in vogue; also introduced the bill providing for the payment of officers of the law in case of settlement after an appeal, which was also passed; another for payment of witnesses in criminal cases, but it was defeated. He introduced the bill for the dating of the putting up of garden seeds and patent medicines; the bill to protect quails, and also introduced the one to amend an act to provide for the election and qualification of Justices of the Peace and Constables, and to provide for the jurisdiction and practice of Justices of the Peace in civil cases, and fix the duties of the Constable.

Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker hold a high social position in the social world and have a large circle of acquaintances and friends throughout the county, by whom they are held in the highest regard. They hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Benson, of which he is trustee, and are active workers for its interests. Mrs. Brubaker is an excellent lady who delights in doing good to those about her, and her home indicates taste and refinement. The history of Woodford County would be incomplete without a sketch of this worthy couple, who for more than a third of a century have here made their home.

Elsewhere in this volume is presented a fine portrait of Mr. Brubaker, thus forming an additional feature of interest in an already valuable work.

GEORGE LALLMANN. This gentleman is one of the oldest business men in the town of Kappa, El Paso Township, and is numbered among its leading citizens. He came to Illinois in 1858, and in 1861 established himself as a shoe dealer in Kappa, and later he branched out into general merchandising, which he has since followed very successfully. He is also half owner of the grain elevator at Kappa. He is a native of the Kingdom of Bavaria, having been born on the river Rhine, Sept. 6, 1834. His ancestors were of both French and German stock, but his father, Capt. Frank J. Lallmann, was born in Germany of French parents.

The father of our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, but after reaching man's estate served ten years under Napoleon I., and participated in many of the important battles in France, Spain, Russia and Prussia. He was honored with a captain's commission in the "Flying Cavalry," and did gallant service. He was several times captured by the enemy, but always succeeded in making his escape. He received a number of honorable wounds and had ten horses shot from under him. After leaving the service he spent the remainder of his life in Bavaria, dying there at the age of seventy-seven years.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Katie Heffner, and she died when the latter was an infant, so he remembers nothing of her. One of his brothers died at an early age. The mother was the second wife of Mr. Lallmann, who by his first marriage had become the father of three sons, the eldest of whom, Frank, died in Africa in 1844, after being married; Anton is a weaver by trade and a resident of Bavaria; his son, Jacob, is a clerk in the store of our subject. The younger child of Frank J., was a daughter, Katie, who died in Germany after her marriage.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native province, where he learned the trade of a boot and shoe maker, and later, worked as a journeyman. Not being satisfied with his condition or prospects, financially, he decided to seek the other side of the water, and on the 19th of April, 1858, set out from Havre on the sailing vessel "Gulf Stream." After a voyage of forty-two days he landed in New Orleans, and thence came up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, to Peoria, Ill., where he followed his trade until 1861. He then removed to Kappa, this county, of which he has since been a resident.

On Feb. 18, 1862, Mr. Lallmann was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Hexamer, who is a native of Ohio, and was born in September, 1840. Her father, Jacob Hexamer, was born, reared and

married in Germany, and after the birth of one child, emigrated, in 1837, to the United States, settling in Ohio. Later, he came to Illinois and located in Palestine Township, where the wife and mother died. Mr. Hexamer is still living, and is now seventy-seven years old.

Mrs. Lallmann was quite young when her parents came to Illinois, about 1846–7. She remained under the parental roof until reaching womanhood, attending school and becoming familiar with all useful household duties. Of her union with our subject there has been born one child, a daughter, Louisa M., who has received a thorough education and remains at home with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Lallmann are prominent in social circles, and our subject is an active member of the Catholic Church. Mrs. Lallmann belongs to the German-Lutheran Church.

In his political views Mr. Lallmann supports the principles of the Democratic party, and has been prominent in local affairs for twenty years. Fourteen and one half years of this time he was Postmaster of Kappa, and has served as village Treasurer; he has also been School Director for twenty years. He has attained to his present position, socially and financially, by his own honest efforts, having started out in life without other means than his industrious and persevering disposition, and the integrity which has gained for him the confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

JOHN C. MUNDELL, Woodford County, has among its representative business men and agriculturists, many who are native-born, and of these none are more worthy of a place in this BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM, than this gentleman, who is Postmaster of Cazenovia, where he is engaged at general merchandising, and is also superintending his farming interests. He was born in Partridge Township, April 15, 1846, and is the second son of Abner and Maria (Clingman) Mundell. For full particulars of the Mundell family, see sketch of Samuel Mundell, Jr. Our subject was educated in the public schools, and assisted his father in the management of his farm until his marriage. At that time he rented land in Roanoke Township for a period of three years, and at the end of that time bought an 80-acre farm in Cazenovia Township, known as the Stoddard farm. In 1873 he disposed of that estate at a good price, and with the proceeds emigrated to Kansas, and became a pioneer of Phillips County. He took up a tract of Government land in Crystal Township, and built a comfortable hewed log house and dug-out stables, of the most approved style of architecture in that part of the country at that date. The region roundabout was in a sparsely settled, wild condition, and buffalo, deer, elk, and antelopes were still plenty, so that Mr. Mundell had a fine opportunity to indulge in his fondness for hunting, and he has as a highly prized trophy, a horn from the last buffalo that he killed. He was quite extensively engaged in the sheep and cattle business, until the grasshoppers caused such havoc among the Kansas farmers, ruining entirely the prospects of many a poor man, and causing him to give up his home and depart elsewhere. The pests came in clouds and devoured everything growing, stripping corn-stalks as bare as bean poles, and eating the grass to the ground, so that there was nothing left for the starving cattle, horses and other animals. This was a death-blow to our subject's stock interests, and in 1880 he closed out his business, and came back to his native State poorer than when he left it, making the entire journey with a team, feeling only too thankful that it had been left to him out of the wreck of his property, to take him back to the home of his birth, and to his old friends. On his return, with good courage, he began to repair his damaged fortunes; and renting the farm of his father, that he now owns, actively engaged in agriculture, and was so successful in that venture, that he was enabled to buy the place, which is finely located on section 3, Metamora Township. It comprises eighty-five acres of well-improved land, and he owns besides, thirty acres of valuable timber land in Partridge Township. He confined himself to farming until 1886, when he established himself in Cazenovia in the mercantile business, and was appointed Postmaster of the town the same

year. The duties of this office were not new to him, as he had formerly had charge of the post-office at Norman, in Kansas, as its first Postmaster, and he is found to be the right man in the right place. He has a neat, well-conducted store, and is doing quite a large and profitable business, as his fair dealings, and gentlemanly, obliging manners have attracted to him many customers.

Mr. Mundell has been greatly encouraged and assisted in his work of upbuilding a home and securing his present competence, by his amiable wife, to whom he was united in wedlock in the month of August, 1875. To them have come five children —Francis Marion, Simeon I., George E., Maud M., Mark Abner. Mrs. Mundell's maiden name was Hester A. Evans. She was born Feb. 8, 1848, in Woodford County, a daughter of James and Mary (Sunderland) Evans, natives of Ohio.

Mr. Mundell is a gentleman of superior intelligence, with an enlightened and well-informed mind, and he is very much interested in the study of geology and kindred sciences, and has a valuable collection of specimens gathered from different parts of the country, among which are some fine samples of the enormous bones of the mammoth mastodon, which he discovered on his farm in Phillips County, Kan. Mr. Mundell has reason to be proud of the manner in which he has overcome every obstacle to success by his excellent business management, and the exercise of rare judgment. In social, political, and religious circles his position is among the highest. He and his wife are esteemed members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In regard to the conduct of National and local affairs, he is in hearty sympathy with the Democratic party.

HENRY LEMON, an early settler and pioneer of Roanoke Township, was for more than thirty years actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in this part of Woodford County, and still owns one of its many valuable and highly productive farms, which he developed from the wild prairies by well-directed toil and shrewd management. He has rented his farm, and now lives in honorable retirement with his good wife in a comfortable and cozy home in Roanoke Village, which is rendered attractive by the number of fruit trees and beautiful flowers on every side.

Our subject was born in Botetourt County, Va., July 20, 1829. His father, John Lemon, was born in the same county. The grandfather of our subject, George Lemon, was for many years a resident of Maryland, and removing from there to Botetourt County, Va., he traded a horse and wagon with the Indians for a tract of land which was heavily timbered. He cleared a farm from the primeval forests of the Old Dominion, and for many years engaged in the cultivation of tobacco, finally dying there at a ripe old age. The maiden name of his wife was Barbara Yon. The father of our subject was reared and spent his entire life in his native county. He bought a tract of land near the old homestead that had been his birthplace, and built a brick house in the wilderness, and some years later bought another tract of land with a sawmill, which he operated in connection with farming. He made his home on his land till death called him to a better home some time during the late war. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Kesler, and she was a native of either Maryland or Virginia. Her father, Abraham Kesler, was born in Maryland, and there married a lady by the name of Hepler. He subsquently moved to Botetourt County, Va., and spent his last years there. The mother of our subject died on the home farm a few years after her husband's decease.

The subject of this sketch grew to a stalwart manhood amid the pleasant scenes of his Virginia birthplace, and continued to live with his parents till he attained his majority. At that age he commenced working out by the month, and was thus engaged nearly two years. He then rented land till 1853, and in that year took a river voyage down the Kanawha and Ohio rivers and up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, landing at Peoria, and thence coming to Woodford County. After his arrival here he rented a farm in Panola Township, and at the end of a year came with the money that he had made in that way, and rented land in

Roanoke Township, the three ensuing years. At the expiration of that time he had saved up enough money to become independent, and he bought eighty acres of fertile land on section 35. There were deer and wolves here, and the latter were so bold that they used to come to his door at night to gather up the crumbs of food that had been thrown out during the day. In the spring of 1857 Mr. Lemon settled on his land, building a comfortable house for a dwelling, and lived thereon till 1885. In the meantime he worked quietly but persistently, and made many valuable improvements, and put the land under fine cultivation, and then rented his farm, and retired to the village of Roanoke, purchasing at that time his present home. He has besides two blocks finely located in the southeastern part of the village, a most desirable resident quarter, and has a good set of frame buildings. He and his wife have a very attractive home, and an abundance of fruits and flowers, and every comfort to make life worth living.

This worthy couple were united in the holy bonds of matrimony Oct. 10, 1850, and their happy wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Salina F., John D. and Mollie C. Salina married David Kindig, of Palestine Township, and they have six children—William H., Viola M., Pearl E., Ivy L., Maud S., Jay R. John, who lives in Adams County, Neb., married Miss Belle Gish, and they have two children, Dora E. and Charles Edward; Mollie married C. C. Brubaker, of Roanoke, and they have two children, Bessie May and Flossie Lemon.

Mrs. Lemon was born in Carroll County, Md., a daughter of Jacob Hildebrand, a native of the same State. His father, John Hildebrand, was a native of Pennsylvania, and removing from that State to Carroll County, Md., when he was a young man, he bought a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits there during the remainder of his life. Mrs. Lemon's father was reared and married in his native State and county, and removed from there in 1847 to Botetourt County, Va. After residing there about six years, he emigrated to this State, and settled in Panola Township, this county. He purchased a farm there, lived on it a few years, and then went to Missouri, and located in Cass County, where he still makes his home. The maiden name of his wife was Nancy C. Wentz, and she was a native of Maryland, and a daughter of Frederick and Mary (Powell) Wentz, natives, respectively of Pennsylvania and Maryland.

The perusal of Mr. Lemon's biographical sketch leads one to feel that he is in all respects a man of sound integrity and high worth, one whom his fellow-citizens may well hold in respect and esteem. He and his wife are members of the German Baptist Church, and their Christian faith is known by their work and kindly deeds.

GEORGE A. YERION, a prosperous and prominent stock man, resides on section 30, El Paso Township, where he has followed the business of raising, breeding, buying and shipping stock for the last twenty years. He came to this county in 1852, and located in El Paso Township, where the prairie was almost unbroken, the county being yet new, and settlers, like angels' visits, were few and far between. The land had been entered by his father the previous year, and in the above-named year the father of our subject removed his family from Peoria County to Woodford County, and resided on the place he had entered until 1864, when our subject became the owner of it, and has made it his home ever since. The parents of our subject established themselves in Brunswick, Trivola Township, in 1840, when Peoria County had scarcely been touched with a plow. They entered land, and made such improvements as their means permitted, and continued residing there until 1852, the date when they made their entry into Woodford County. This county was also at that time comparatively unimproved, neighbors being located at distances of several miles from each other. The father of our subject, therefore, had the honor of being one of the pioneers, but it was a post of danger, and one requiring nerve and intrepidity, as well as great physical endurance.

Our subject was a native of Virginia, where he

was born, June 13, 1833, in Wythe County. He is the youngest son of William and Eliza (Campbell) Yerion, natives of Virginia, of German extraction, and of American parentage on the paternal side, but the mother came of old Scotch stock, and American parentage for one or two generations.

William Yerion, father of our subject, and his wife, were both reared in Wythe County, Va., in which place also their marriage took place. The young couple began life on a farm in their native county, subsequently spending a short period in Montgomery County, Va., and later removed back to Wythe County, where they remained until 1840, when they started Westward with their family of five children, having Illinois as the goal of their destination, where they arrived June 2d, the same year, in Peoria County, after a journey of six weeks, made in a covered wagon drawn by six horses, camping by the wayside, and in every other respect following out the primitive mode of travel employed by the Virginians of that day in their emigrations to the West. The wild waste of land surrounding them on their arrival at what was expected to be their new home, might have appalled stouter hearts, but the first settlers of our Western country were made of sterner stuff than to be frightened at the desolate look of the place, although it was inhabited by wandering tribes of wolves and other wild animals, who made the air mournful with their cries. They secured good, fertile land, and set diligently to work to build up a comfortable home for themselves and children. The mother's death, in 1856, at the age of sixty-two years, was the first serious trouble they had experienced after coming to this State; as she was a Christian woman they sorrowed, but not without hope. The father then spent four years in Texas, and at the expiration of that time returned to Illinois, to the home of his son, which he made his abode until suddenly stricken with his last illness, which removed him from the scenes of earth, when in his eighty-sixth year. He was born Jan. 12, 1801, and his death occurred on Sept. 24, 1887. During life he and his wife were members of the denomination known as the Dutch Reformed.

Dr. Joseph R. Yerion, the eldest brother of our subject, is a resident of the Lone Star State, at Weatherford, Parker County, where he has a large practice as a physician. He is married and has a family. William E. died at Farmington, Ill., leaving a widow and several children. George A., our subject, was the third child. Clarisa is the wife of Arthur Annett, now deceased; Mrs. Annett lives with her family in Bloomington. Mary E. is the wife of Alonzo Albros; their home is in Texas, where he follows the occupation of an engineer. Susan is the wife of John Bridges, and resides in Kansas City, Mo., where he follows the occupation of a plaster mechanic.

Our subject was reared in Peoria County, and secured a good practical education in the common schools of his district, although the buildings were of log, with stick and mud chimneys. He was married to Miss Mary E. Tucker, at her home in El Paso Township. Mrs. Yerion was a daughter of John and Louisa (Wathan) Tucker, who were natives of Kentucky, and pioneers of Woodford County, coming here in the early '30s. When the parents of Mrs. Yerion came to Illinois, they purchased wild land in Tazewell County, near what is now Pekin and Washington cities, which they improved and made their home for sometime, but later came to El Paso Township, where they resided until the close of life, Mr. Tucker dying at the age of fifty-six years. His wife had preceded him to the better land, dying in 1873, at the age of fifty-two years. Mrs. Yerion was one of a family of six children, four of whom are sons; one is deceased—James was shot, when a young man, in the mines of Silver City, New Mexico. Those now living are: Junius, the second child, lives in Arkansas, following the occupation of a farmer, having good success, and making a pleasant home for his family. Frank lives in Bradley Township, McLean County, on a farm, with his wife and children. Anna resides in El Paso with her uncle, Major J. H. Wathan. Henry resides in Eureka; he is a policeman, and lives with his wife and children.

Mrs. Yerion, the wife of our subject was reared in this county, where she obtained a fair education in the common schools, and resided under the parental roof until her marriage to Mr. Yerion, when she went to preside over a home of her own, which her training had well-fitted her to do. Mr. and

Mrs. Yerion have beeome the parents of twelve ehildren, four of whom are deeeased, all dying in their youth. Those living are: Willie, who is operating a farm for himself in Bradley Township, MeLean County; Isa, wife of William Allison; George H. lives with his brother Willie in MeLean County; Anna, a twin sister of George H., is now the wife of Miehael C. Cown, and resides on a farm near Kappa; Florenee, James H., Louisa and May Belle remain at home to eheer and eomfort their parents.

Mr. Yerion is a publie-spirited, wide-awake genman, who takes a deep interest in the welfare of the township sinee he has been a resident of it.. He has assisted every enterprise that would promote its growth and development, and is held in high esteem by his neighbors and friends. Politieally he is a sound Demoerat, but has never sought an office.

WILLIAM P. HEPPERLY, who has been a resident of Illinois for more than half a eentury, and is now numbered among the progressive and substantial farmers of Montgomery Township, resides on seetion 3, where he owns a fine farm eomprising 320 aeres. He was born in the historieal town of Gettysburg, Pa., April 30, 1825, and is the son of a Pennsylvania meehanie, who died when our subjeet was about eighteen months old. He therefore knows but little of his father's history or the early traditions of the family. His mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Eekert, was born and reared in Gettysburg, Adams County, and there beeame aequainted with Mr. Hepperly, who sought her hand in marriage and led her to the hymeneal altar. Eight ehildren, five sons and three daughters, were born of their union, our subjeet being the youngest of the family. All grew to manhood and womanhood, and six are yet living. The eldest son, Jaeob, was the first to emigrate to the West and beeome a resident of Illinois. Bidding good-by to his widowed mother, he started across the country and at an early day, probably abont 1831, loeated in Peoria County, and thenee went to Tazewell County, Ill. In 1835 he sent for the family to join him in his new home, and the same year, Mrs. Hepperly, aeeompanied by her ehildren, with the exeeption of three daughters who were married, eame to the West. A number of years later, in 1849, her death oeeurred in Tazewell County when past fifty years of age. She nobly performed the task of earing for her large family of ehildren, when by the death of her husband that duty devolved upon her. She provided for their maintenance, guided them by her loving counsel and instilled into their youthful minds lessons of honesty and industry.

The subjeet of this sketeh was but ten years old when he went with his mother to Tazewell County, Ill. Though forty years have eome and gone sinee that estimable lady was ealled home, he has never forgotten, nor will while memory lasts, the kind adviee and eounsel which sheltered him in his boyhood and has been his guide in after life. He was reared to manhood in Tazewell County, where he reeeived such educational advantages as the district sehools of that time afforded. On attaining to mature years, he married Miss Margaret O'Brien, who was born in 1827, in Indiana, and is a daughter of John and Sarah O'Brien, the former a native of Nova Seotia, while the birth plaee of the latter was probably in Indiana, where their marriage was celebrated. About the year 1831, the family beeame residents of Tazewell County, where the death of the wife and mother oeeurred while yet in the prime of life. The husband survived for many years, dying in the same eounty at the advaneed age of eighty-five years. He was a leading farmer of the eommunity, and a prominent and influential eitizen, who justly merited the respeet whieh he reeeived from all. For the long period of thirty years he held the offiee of Justiee of the Peaee, his faithfulness and able diseharge of duty being indieated by his eontinued serviee.

Mr. Hepperly has been the arehiteet of his own fortunes. He is entirely a self-made man. When he started out in life for himself he had no eapital, but possessed a resolute will and steadfast purpose whieh brooked no defeat, but overeame all obstaeles that he eneountered in his path to a position

of affluence. He is industrious, energetic and conducts his business on systematic principles, the result of which is prosperity and success. In 1859, he located on his present farm which now comprises 320 acres of valuable land, the greater part of which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He now owns one of the most comfortable homes of the county, his residence is tasty and commodious, the improvements which he has made are many, useful and beautiful, and his barns and outbuildings are all that are necessary to the model farm. His stock is also of good grades which he is constantly improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Hepperley are the parents of six children, as follows: John, who married Ada Small, and now resides on a farm in Livingston County, Ill.; Orin, a farmer of the same county, wedded Tarey Foster; Albert is at home; Henry was joined in wedlock with Alice Havens, and is now operating his farm in Livingston County; Sarah is engaged in teaching, and Mary, who completes the family, is with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Hepperly are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he holds the office of Trustee. In politics, he is a Republican, unswerving in his allegiance to that party. The worthy couple of whom we write are ranked among the best citizens of the community, and well deserve a representation in the history of their adopted county.

JOHN FEHRING, a successful and energetic farmer, has his home on section 4, Minonk Township, and has been a resident of the township since 1859. Westphalia, Germany, was his birthplace, he having made his appearance on the stage of this world's activities, Aug. 9, 1833. His parents were John and Charlotte Fehring, natives of the same place as their son. The father of our subject was a miller, owning a flouring-mill in Germany. In 1833, some three months before the birth of our subject, his father left his native land alone, and came to the United States. Shortly after landing in New York he was taken ill and died. About six months afterward, when our subject was only three months old he also lost his mother. Four children besides our subject were in the parental family: Lona died leaving four children, in Germany; Deina died in New York, unmarried; Charles died in Wisconsin, leaving eleven children; August died in Woodford County, Ill., unmarried; our subject was the youngest of the family. He was reared by relatives in Germany and came with his uncles and aunts to the United States. He first secured employment in Newport, R. I., afterward going to Boston, Mass., where he worked some two and one-half years in a sugar factory. Leaving Boston he came to Illinois, first engaging in work as a farm hand, then securing employment in a warehouse at Minonk, which he soon left for more remunerative employment in a mill. He continued at this work until 1870, investing a portion of his earnings in land. In that year he found himself possessed of a sufficient number of acres to constitute a fine farm. He thereupon took possession of it and commenced improving it with the view of building up a pleasant home for himself. When our subject, bought his land it was raw prairie, and cost him $25 per acre. It has probably quadrupled in value since then. His farm now consists of 100 acres, all of which is in the finest state of cultivation, owing to the energetic industry and wise economy with which he has managed his affairs.

In 1861 Mr. Fehring and Miss Mary Schulze were united in the bonds of matrimony. Mrs. Fehring is a native of Germany, from which country she came to the United States in her childood under the care and protection of her parents. She is a daughter of John and Anna Marie Schulze, who came to the United States and located at New York. After a residence of four or five years in that city they removed to Woodford County, where they finally established themselves, making many warm friends by their genial disposition, and remaining in this county until death released them from their earthly toil.

Mr. and Mrs. Fehring have had born unto them nine children, as follows Henry F., Mary (deceased), Charles, Menia, John, Joseph, Lena (deceased), Anna and Maggie. Our subject is a plain, honest,

industrious man; his careful economy will be manifest when it is known that on the small wages of $14 per month he supported himself and also saved sufficient to pay for his land, including a high rate of interest. For the last seven years our subject has confined his labors entirely within the precincts of his own farm, managing the interests of his place so judiciously as to win the praise of all beholders.

He is an earnest supporter and devoted adherent of the Roman Catholic Church. Politically, he is in the ranks of the Republican party, and has been rewarded for his services with the positions of School Director and Road Overseer.

SAMUEL R. DAWSON, a highly respected member of the farming community of Panola Township, has been a resident of Woodford County for the past twenty years, and within that time he has developed a well-improved farm on section 24, that for its size compares with the best in its vicinity. Mr. Dawson comes of good old New Jersey stock, and the blood of a Revolutionary grandsire runs in his veins. He was born in Salem County, N. J., Feb. 6, 1843, a son of Samuel and Mary A. (Hampton) Dawson, also natives of New Jersey. His maternal ancestry was probably of English origin, while his paternal great-grandfather came from Germany. His progenitors were among the early settlers of New Jersey, and his grandfather Dawson was a gallant soldier in the Revolution, and two of his father's brothers fought in the War of 1812.

He of whom we write was bred to the life of a farmer on his father's homestead, and lived in his native county until he had attained his majority. He received but limited educational advantages, as in his youth there were no free schools in his county. But notwithstanding the early defects in his education he has been an intelligent observer of men and events, and having been a lover of books all his life has gleaned much knowledge, and has educated himself perhaps better than those who have enjoyed better school privileges. In 1869 he left his old home in New Jersey to seek another on the great prairies of Illinois, judging that his chances for success as a farmer were better on this rich, virgin soil than in his native place, where the land had been impoverished by many years of cultivation. The first year after his arrival here he worked out by the month as a farm hand in Minonk Township. He subsequently rented land for a year in Nebraska Township, Livingston County, and thus further added to his capital. He afterward removed to a place two miles south of El Paso, and lived there a short time. In 1872 he invested his money in his present farm, purchasing eighty acres of land, of which the few acres broken constituted the only improvements. By dint of energy, hard work, close economy and thrifty management he has transformed that untilled tract of land into a highly cultivated farm, on which he has placed substantial buildings and provided it with all the necessary appurtenances, so that it is considered as desirable an estate for its size as is to be found in in the township.

In his manly struggles to build up a home, Mr. Dawson has had the cheerful aid of a wife who has been to him a true helpmate in every particular. They were united in the holy bonds of matrimony March 25, 1872, and nine children have come to brighten their lives, of whom six are now living—Russell, Elsie M., Nora N., Lizzie, May and Bertha. Three of their children, Bessie, Lottie and one who died in infancy, were early removed from the cares and sins of this world to a better. Mrs. Dawson's maiden name was Elizabeth Metcalf; she was born Sept. 3, 1848, and is a native of England, a daughter of William and Mary (Arkle) Metcalf. They were both born in England, and in 1852 emigrated to America, locating in Virginia, and in 1854 came to Marshall County, Ill. Here he engaged in mining and afterward farming. He removed to Minonk, Woodford County, in 1858. He and his wife both died in this county, the mother in 1864 and the father in 1882.

Mr. Dawson is of the type of so called self-made men, as what he is and what he has, are the results of his own unaided efforts. He is a man of excellent moral character, a zealous and valued member of the United Brethren Church, and in his com-

munity is liked and respected for those traits that make him a good neighbor and a true friend, a tender husband and a loving father. In his politics he is a sound Democrat. He has served his township as School Director, and favors all plans for the educational, social and religious advancement of the community. Mrs. Dawson, a sincere Christian, is a member of the same church as her husband.

JACOB WAGNER was brought to this country from the German Fatherland when very young, by his parents, who were pioneers of Woodford County, and has grown up with its growth, and is now prominently identified with its highest interests as one of the most extensive, enterprising, and successful farmers in Partridge Township. Here he owns a very large farm that he has placed under a high state of cultivation, has provided it with ample, well-appointed buildings and made various other valuable improvements.

He was born in Germany, Dec. 13, 1843. His father, bearing the same name, was a native of the same place. In due course of time he married and settled down in his native land and continued to live there till 1847. In that year he determined to better his condition if possible by emigration to America, and seek in this land the opportunity denied him in his own to build up a comfortable home for his wife and little ones. Leaving his family behind he crossed the ocean, landed at New York, proceeded to Ohio, and after working there a short time came to Woodford County. Here he secured employment by the month or day, carefully saved his earnings, and the following year borrowed more to put with what he had saved, and sent for his family. His faithful, courageous wife braved the perils of the deep with her four little children, and after a long and tedious voyage of fifty-seven days, landed in New York, a stranger in a strange land, meeting on every hand unfamiliar faces and people speaking an unknown language. Her weary journey was not yet ended; many miles lay between her and her husband and the father of her children, and many days would elapse before she would arrive at her future home in the Prairie State. She traveled by the Hudson River and Erie Canal to Buffalo, and thence by the lakes to Chicago, there being no railways in Illinois then, and from the latter city she journeyed by canal and the Illinois River to Lacon, and there the happy family were once more united never again to part in this world. The father had previously leased a tract of land in Partridge Township, which is now included in our subject's homestead. In consideration for the use of the land he was to build a log house on it, clear and fence forty acres of it and pay taxes on the place. He at once erected a log house, into which the family moved, and at the expiration of eight years he had been so fortunate in his venture that he was enabled to buy the farm, and it remained his home till his death in May, 1874. By persistent industry and careful management he secured wealth beyond his expectations when he started out in life, and he was considered one of the moneyed, substantial men of the township. The maiden name of his wife was Margaretta Stauder, and as in their lives they were devoted to each other, in death they were not long divided, they both passing away in the same year. Six of their eight children are now living, namely, George, Dan, Jacob, Adam, Michael and Hannah. The latter married John Kanive.

Jacob Wagner, of this biographical review, was four years old when he came to America with his mother, and so has but little remembrance of any other home than this country has afforded him. He inherited from his parents commendable traits of energy and industry, and was bred to the life of a farmer, and as soon as he arrived at years of discretion he identified himself with the agricultural interests of the county. He made his home with his parents till he attained manhood, and then commenced life for himself by renting land, which he farmed successfully for some time. At the end of eight years he had worked to such good purpose and had so much money to show for it, that he was enabled to buy the old homestead where the years of his boyhood had been passed. He contin-

ued to be very much prospered, and from time to time judiciously invested his money in other land, and now has a fine large farm embraeing 520 acres of choice and fertile land. He has ereeted a commodious, substantial set of frame buildings, and the improvements that he has made compare favorably with those of any other estate in the township.

Mr. Wagner was married in 1867 to Miss Helen Belsly, a native of Woodford County and a daughter of John and Barbara Belsly. In their pleasant home ten children have been born to them: Joseph, Ella, Kate, Emma, Lonise, Lydia, Perlie, Susie, Jessie and Ray.

Mr. Wagner is a stirring, wide-awake man, prompt and systematic in the management of his affairs and at the same time displaying commendable thrift and prudenee. In him are found those commendable traits that command the confidenee of men, and his fellow-citizens reeognizing his general trustworthiness and other sterling qualities of a good counselor, have selected him as a useful man for public office, and have appointed him to fill some responsible positions, such as Supervisor on the County Board to represent Partridge Township, School Director for this locality and Trustee for the township. In politics he is a devoted adherent of the Republican party.

CHRISTIAN MOSER. The agricultural interests of Montgomery Township have been sensibly promoted by Mr. Moser, who occupies his time in the cultivation of a quarter-section of prime land on section 20. He has lived upon this since 1856, and put up his present residence in 1875. He was born in Alsace, formerly a Province of France, but now belonging to Germany, May 3, 1829, and there spent the opening years of his life. In 1853, when a young man twenty-four years old, he set sail for the United States in hopes to better his condition, financially. The first two years thereafter he spent in Wayne County Ohio; then removed to Adams County, where he lived one year, and from there eame to Woodford County, of which he has since been a resident. His record has been eminently that of an honest man and a good citizen.

The parents of our subjeet were Benediet and Elizabeth (Roth) Moser, the former of whom died in the Provinee of Alsace, at the age of forty-nine years. The mother lived there until after her son Christian had eome to America, and then the latter sent her money to join him in this eountry. She died in Fulton County, Ohio, when seventy years of age. Both were members of the old Omish Church.

Mr. Moser was the eldest son and second child of his parents, whose family consisted of seven ehildren. One of these died young in France. The other six came to the United States, and are all married. Three are living in Ohio, one in Indiana and two in Illinois. Christian, our subjeet, was educated both in the French and German languages and remained with his parents until eoming to America, a single man. After becoming a resident of this eounty he was married, in Montgomery Township, to Mrs. Magdalena (Summers) Camp. She was born in Butler County, Ohio, June 1, 1816, and is a daughter of John and Susaunah (Chalen) Summers. Her father was also of French birth and a native of Alsace, and the mother was born in Pennsylvania, in whieh State they were married. After living on a farm there a number of years they went to Butler County, Ohio, and later to Tippeeanoe County, Ind., where the father died at the age of eighty-eight years. The widowed mother subsequently made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Moser, and departed this life at the ripe old age of ninety-two years. Both were members of the old Omish Church.

Mrs. Moser was the youngest but one of three sons and six daughters born to her parents, and she with her sister, Mrs. Susannah Salsman, are the only living representatives of her family. The first husband of Mrs. Moser was Christian Camp, who was born in Germany. After coming to Ameriea he settled in Butler County, Ohio, and thence eame to Illinois and died in Montgomery Township, July 15, 1856, in the prime of life, being only forty years of age. He left his widow with nine ehildren,

one of whom is since deceased; Christian, a youth of seventeen, makes his home with his brother in McLean County; Joseph, Nancy, John, Daniel, Peter, Lizzie, Susan and Moses; all are married excepting Peter.

Mr. and Mrs. Moser are the parents of one child only, a daughter, Catherine, who is the wife of Albert Meyer, and they live on a farm in Montgomery Township. Mr. Moser and his wife, as did their respective parents, belong to the Omish Church.

HON. PETER A. COEN occupies a leading position among the most prominent and enterprising farmers, stock-breeders and dealers in cattle, of Woodford County. He is also conspicuously identified with the public life of this section of the State, and in his honorable career as a civic official, he has always worked for the highest good of his township or county without regard to personal or party interests, and his fellow-citizens may point to his unblemished record with pride. He is a resident of Cazenovia Township, where he settled at the time of his marriage, on a farm that his wife inherited from her father, and which he has managed ever since with more than ordinary success. This farm is one of the largest and best in this part of the county, and is first-class in all its appointments. It is used chiefly as a stock farm, and Mr. Coen has made a specialty of thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, being among the first to introduce them here, and he has gained a wide reputation as a breeder, and now has one of the finest herd of Short-horns in the country.

Our subject was born in County Galway, Ireland, June 29, 1836, a son of P. H. and Dora (Gough) Coen. He was very young when his parents died, and he lived with an elder brother until the time of his coming to the United States in 1852, when he was sixteen years old, to seek his fortunes on American soil. He spent his first year in this country, at Racine, Wis., and then went to Kalamazoo, Mich., where he worked in a carriage factory for about five years, gaining a thorough mastery of the trade. In 1858 he came to Metamora, and pursued his trade here a year. In the meantime he had devoted all his spare time to studying, as he had resolutely determined to have a liberal education at any cost, well knowing its value to a man in any walk in life, and in 1859 he entered the Chicago University. For three years he was a close student in that institution of learning, obtaining high rank in his classes for excellence of scholarship. But his close application to his studies affected his health, and he was obliged to leave college in July, 1862, in his junior year, without being graduated. He then settled on the farm where he now resides, which his wife had inherited from her father, Morgan Buckingham, a noted pioneer of Woodford County. It now comprises 960 acres of well-improved land, provided with a substantial, conveniently arranged set of frame buildings, and is considered one of the best farms in the county. It is devoted mainly to stock-raising. About twenty-three years ago Mr. Coen commenced to raise Short-horn cattle of the highest grade, being one of the first in this section of the country to introduce that breed. He has been eminently successful in that line, and now has a herd of upwards of sixty thoroughbreds.

Sept. 12, 1861, the marriage of Mr. Coen and Miss Margaret Buckingham was duly solemnized. She is a native of Cazenovia Township, and a daughter of Morgan Buckingham, one of the original settlers of Cazenovia Township. (For particulars of her parental history see sketch of Morgan Buckingham). Mr. and Mrs. Coen have eight children, as follows: George H., Edward R., Mary, Charles M., Ruah, John, Margaret, and Nellie.

Mr. Coen has fine native abilities that have been rendered more effective by education, and he is a keen observer, and is well-informed on all subjects. His business talents are of a high order, and he is gifted with practical energy and activity of purpose, which are guided by high moral principles, so that he has exerted a great influence for good in his community, and his services as a public official have been of incalculable value. He has held various offices of trust and responsibility; has ably represented Cazenovia Township on the County Board of Supervisors eleven years, and in 1888 he

was elected representative to the State Legislature, and served with distinction during the session of the 36th General Assembly. He has taken an active interest in educational affairs, and has been School Director many years. In politics, he has been a stanch Republican since the formation of the party, and cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. He and his amiable wife are members of the Baptist Church, and cheerfully aid all endeavors to elevate the moral and social standing of the community.

JOEL GUDEMAN, senior member of the firm of Gudeman Bros. & Co., is joint proprietor of the Eureka Pressed Brick and Tile Manufactory, one of the leading industries of that city. He was born in Morton, Tazewell Co., Ill., May 29, 1855, and was brought to this county by his parents when a child of four years, they settling in Worth Township, where Joel was reared to man's estate, receiving a common-school education. He remained at home until his marriage, July 1, 1878, then removed to Roanoke Township, where he purchased a farm upon which he lived for about four years. Then selling out he, in 1885, came to Eureka, where he has since lived.

In 1882 our subject formed a partnership with his brother Albert for the purpose of manufacturing pressed brick and tile. In 1883 J. M. Murray was admitted to the firm, which then assumed the title of Gudeman, Murray & Co. After two years Mr. Murray withdrew, and Gudeman Bros. enlarged their works to their present capacity, which is 2,500,000 pressed brick and 1,000,000 feet of tile. The works, however, are not run to their full capacity, although in 1888 the company manufactured and sold 1,100,000 pressed brick, which were disposed of in Peoria, Pekin, Canton and Fairbury. The business is constantly on the increase. In 1889 the firm was strengthened by the admission of another partner and now employs from fifteen to twenty-five men.

In connection with their brick and tile works Gudeman Bros. have a sawmill, which they operate to a considerable extent. A large amount of pumping is done with their machinery. They furnished the material for the erection of the stand pipe which was built in 1887 and which is located directly at their works. They furnish most of the city water mains and also pump the water with their machinery. They furnish the steam for the elevator, which is located 1,000 feet distant, grind feed and do general blacksmithing for machine work, besides furnishing building estimates on brick work and contracts for mason work. They also operate as agents for the H. W. John's abestos-roofing. Mr. Joel Gudeman is a Republican, politically, and religiously, a member of the Christian Church, contributing liberally to its support.

Our subject was married, July 7, 1878, in Roanoke Township, to Miss Elizabeth Fehr, who was born in Metamora Township, this county, March 11, 1857. This union has resulted in the birth of six children, viz: Anna M., Daniel, Benjamin, Albert, Josephine and Louisa, of whom only four are living, two having died in infancy.

HENRY S. SHUMAN. Among the enterprising young farmers of Woodford County, few are better known and more highly esteemed than the subject of this biographical review. He is a young man of exemplary habits, and possesses the ability and energy necessary to make life a success. In his worthy works he is assisted by his wife, a lady of education and refinement, with whom he was united in marriage, Sept. 29, 1887, in Juniata County, Pa., which was the home of Mrs. Shuman previous to her marriage. She was Miss Laura S., daughter of John and Susan (Brubaker) Woodward, and was born June 28, 1862, in Juniata County, and there reared and married.

Mr. and Mrs. Shuman live on a pleasant homestead situated just outside the city limits, in El Paso Township. Their farm comprises 197 acres of finely improved land on section 8, and has been

their home since their marriage. The residence is a neat and comfortable one, while the farm buildings are of a substantial character. They here welcome their many friends, who are always treated in the most hospitable manner, and Mr. Shuman and his wife are in turn welcomed as honored guests in all the best circles of society, which their education and refinement fit them to adorn.

Mr. Shuman came to his present home from Olio Township, where he had lived with his parents since the year 1867. He is a native of Minnesota, having been born in Goodhue County, that State, April 19, 1864. He is the eldest son in a family of two sons and one daughter, born to Samuel and Henrietta (Schnebly) Shuman. Samuel Shuman was a native of Juniata County, Pa., where he was reared to manhood. His wife was born in Maryland, but when only two years of age came with her parents to Illinois. When she grew to womanhood she removed to Minnesota, and there met her future husband, Mr. Shuman, who had come there when a young man, and had taken up a claim. They were married in Peoria, Ills., and lived on the claim which Mr. Shuman had pre-empted in Goodhue County, until their oldest child, our subject, was two years of age, when they came to Olio Township, this county, which has since been their home. Samuel Shuman has been prospered in his labors, and now is the owner of over 400 acres of well-improved land. He and his wife are not only well-to-do in this world's goods, but are held in high esteem by their neighbors and friends. They are among the most prominent people in the county, where they have passed so many years of their lives. They gave their children excellent educations, and thus our subject was well prepared for the duties awaiting him in the future. In early life he learned those habits of industry which are of so much benefit to him now, and his parents early in his life inculcated the important lessons of perseverance and energy. To them he owes a great deal of his present prosperity, for they fitted him well for his present position.

Mrs. Henry Shuman, the wife of the subject of this notice, was reared to womanhood in Pennsylvania, where her parents yet reside. She was a very successful teacher in her native county, and for several years prior to her marriage her time was thus employed. Her father is a prosperous farmer, and now lives, hale and hearty, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife is sixty-five years old. They are both active members of the Lutheran Church, while Mr. and Mrs. Shuman are attendants of the Presbyterian Church, which was the religious faith of Mr. Shuman's mother.

SAMUEL M. ROBINSON is a young farmer residing on section 1, Cazenovia Township, where he has lived since he was eight years of age, occupying the homestead upon which he has been reared, and which he has managed with signal success several years. He is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in Allegheny County, June 18, 1857. His father, James Robinson, was born in the same county, where his father, who was a farmer, spent his last years. The father of our subject commenced life by working in a woolen factory when but a boy, and after he had grown to manhood, such had been his enterprise and industry that he was enabled to purchase the factory where he had learned the trade, and he engaged in the manufacture of cloth several years thereafter. He subsequently sold the factory, and moving to Allegheny County, he purchased a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1864, when he disposed of his farm at a good price, in order to take up his residence in Illinois. After his arrival here he bought the farm where his son lives, and made his home here until his death. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Eliza Curry. She was born in Pennsylvania and was the daughter of Daniel Curry. She died on the homestead in August, 1888. There were four of their eight children grew to maturity, namely: Mary J., Elizabeth, Thomas, Samuel M.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest child of his parents, and he was seven years of age when he came to this State with them. His early life was spent very much as that of other farmers' boys,

attending school and assisting on the farm, and with the exception of three years, when he was a clerk in Washburn, he has resided on the old homestead. This comprises eighty acres of well-improved land, finely located within a half-mile of the flourishing village of Washburn.

The subject of this biographical review was joined in marriage to Miss Flora Hawk, a native of Illinois, in August, 1883. She is a daughter of Philip Hawk. They have one child, named Clay.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson are members of the United Presbyterian Church, and do what they can to advance the religious and moral status of the community of which they are worthy residents. Mr. Robinson is a sturdy, sober-minded industrious young man, of good moral habits, and is deserving of success.

THOMAS OSCAR TANTON. Woodford County has a fine representative of her native-born citizens in this gentleman, who, reared within her borders, educated in her schools, is now one of the foremost among her leading farmers and stock-raisers, and in the amount of his wealth and ability as a business man, is surpassed by none. He was born on the farm that he owns and occupies in Cazenovia Township, April 10, 1850, and is the only son now living of John and Hannah Tanton. For an extended account of their family history, see biography of John Tanton on another page of this volume.

Mr. Tanton was reared to agricultural pursuits, and early gained a thorough practical knowledge of the calling in all its branches, and when only twenty years of age, commenced business for himself, farming, raising and dealing in stock, and at twenty-three years of age took entire charge of his father's extensive business, and has carried it on with marked success ever since.

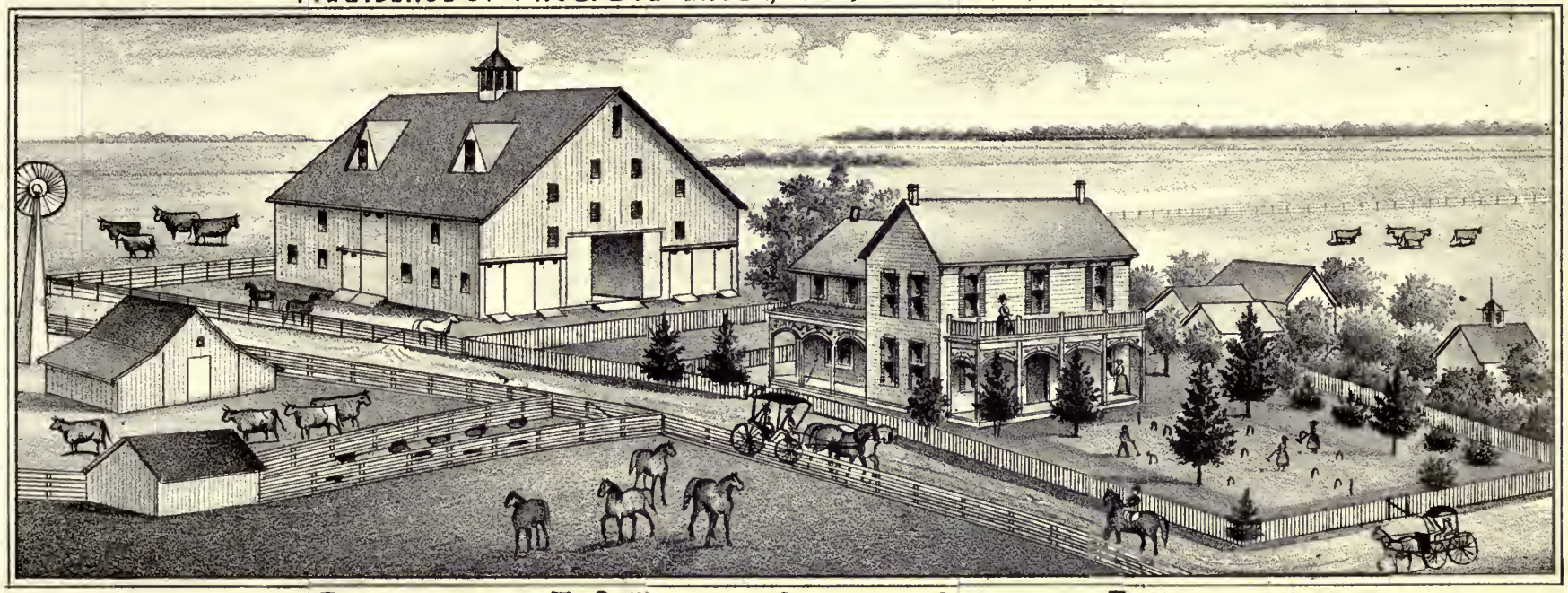
Mr. Tanton has been twice married. His first marriage, which took place Feb. 27, 1873, was to Miss Barbara Gingrich, a most estimable lady. She was born at Hickory Point, Woodford County, March 18, 1853, a daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Naffsinger) Gingrich, pioneers of Woodford County, her father a native of France, and her mother of Germany. May 10, 1887, the shadow of death fell over the threshold of the home of our subject, and the beloved wife and mother was taken from her family. She bore her husband five children—Lizzie H., Josie E., Edna B., Mary M. and John Oscar. Mrs. Tanton was a member of the old Omish Church, and was known and esteemed for her amiable qualities and Christian spirit.

Mr. Tanton's marriage to his present wife, formerly Miss F. Amanda Martin, was solemnized May 16, 1889. She is a native of Cazenovia Township, born March 22, 1852, to Henry and Sarah A.(Wilson) Martin, well-known early settlers of this township, who are at the present time residents of Metamora. Mrs. Tanton is a lady of education and refinement, and was successfully engaged in teaching school prior to her marriage, entering upon that arduous profession at the age of seventeen years. She is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her pleasant, kindly ways have won her a large circle of friends and acquaintances. On another page of the ALBUM appears a fine lithographic engraving of their attractive home, over which Mrs. Tanton presides with admirable grace, seconding her husband's courteous, friendly welcome to all guests.

Mr. Tanton possesses masterly talents for business, is at once bold and cautious, prompt and daring, is quick to see and take advantage of the fluctuations of the market, and is rightly considered one of the keenest and ablest financiers in Woodford County. He could not have accomplished all that he has at his age, if he had not been well-endowed by nature with indomitable force of will, great tenacity of purpose, and no less ambition.

THOMAS STEVENSON, a substantial, well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Woodford County, has lived on the same homestead for a period of thirty-five years. It was originally

RESIDENCE OF THOS. STEVENSON, SEC. 12. CASENOVIA TOWNSHIP



RESIDENCE OF T. O. TANTON, SEC. 33. CAZENOVIA TOWNSHIP

taken up by his father while it was still a part of the wild, uncultivated prairie, and now constitutes one of the choicest farms in all Cazenovia Township, finely located on section 12, one mile southeast of the village of Washburn. Its 320 acres are in a high state of cultivation, and its commodious, well-appointed buildings are in good order, while all about the place indicates thrift and wise management. Mr. Stevenson also owns a fine, well-improved farm of eighty acres in Linn Township. When he came to this county in early manhood, it had been settled for several years, yet but little improvement had been made on the prairie, and deer and other wild animals roamed at will over its broad expanse, or sought shelter in the groves along the streams. The railway had just been completed through the eastern part of the county, but the nearest railway station was some distance away at Minonk. It has been Mr. Stevenson's fortune to witness the great changes that have come over the face of the country since he first looked upon it, and to promote its growth as only an intelligent, successful farmer can. He has been much prospered, as better facilities for disposing of his produce have come with the advent of the railway within half a mile of his farm, and with the springing up of the flourishing village of Washburn near by.

Mr. Stevenson comes of good stock, and is a native of the State of Ohio, his birth taking place in Bladensburg, Knox County, March 28, 1833, the eldest son of George and Hannah (Le Fevre) Stevenson. (For parental History, see sketch of William Stevenson on another page of this volume.) Our subject was reared and educated in his native county, growing to a stalwart, intelligent manhood. In 1854, he set out with his parents from the old home and traveled across the country by slow stages to this county. Being pleased with the aspect of the surrounding country, the father decided to locate in Cazenovia Township, and purchased the homestead now in possession of our subject. The latter was of great assistance to him in its development, and some years before his death the son assumed the entire control of the farm, and has ever since managed it so as to produce the best results. He has never married, but while his parents were living, devoted himself to caring for them and making their declining years comfortable and free from care. He is a man of sound common sense, possessing great stability of character, and is an influence for good in this community. In his religious belief he is a Presbyterian, strong in the faith, and has been a Trustee in the church to which he belongs, for many years. He keeps himself well informed as to the political questions that agitate the public mind, and favors the policy of the Democratic party.

We present elsewhere in this volume a view of the home and surroundings of Mr. Stevenson, and it is especially noticeable that he keeps everything in fine shape and systematic arrangement.

J. A. DAVIS, a well-known resident of Eureka and proprietor of one of the most important banking institutions, first visited this section in the spring of 1860. Soon afterward, however, he emigrated to Weston, Mo., but returned and with a partner engaged in the grocery business until the fall of 1861. Then in company with Benjamin Lyon, of Peoria, he purchased a half interest in the Eureka flouring-mills, which they conducted until about 1869, after which Mr. Davis became chief owner, retaining his interest therein until the mill was destroyed by fire in the spring of 1889. In 1868 he established the banking house of J. A. Davis & Co., which was conducted under this name until June 1871, when Mr. Davis assumed the entire control and changed its name to the Bank of Eureka.

The subject of this sketch was born near Georgetown, Brown Co., Ohio, Feb. 27, 1829. His paternal grandfather journeyed in the early days from Pennsylvania to Ohio while it was a territory, and settled on the Little Miami River. One of his sons, Hugh, the father of our subject, when a young man went into Kentucky, but later crossed the river, settling on the Little Miami, eighteen miles above the present city of Cincinnati. Later he removed to Brown County and settled near

Georgetown. He died when our subject was only five years old. He was married, it is supposed, on the Little Miami, to Miss Winnifred Berry, and there was born to them a family of eleven children, of whom our subject was the youngest and is the only survivor.

Young Davis, after the death of his father, lived with one of his brothers for a time, and when of suitable age was apprenticed to a wagon-maker to learn the trade. This, however, was not congenial to his tastes, and when only sixteen years old he enlisted as a soldier for the Mexican War and was made a Second Lieutenant. Much to his regret the company was never called into service. He then determined to go West, and leaving Ohio, in 1848, repaired to Weston, Mo., where he engaged as a carpenter. He remained there and in that vicinity, living also for a time in Vicksburg, Miss., and put up the best hotel in that place.

In the spring of 1850 Mr. Davis came up the Mississippi River to Weston, Mo., and in March following started overland for California. He reached the Pacific coast in August, 1850, and remained in that region until the fall of 1859. Shortly after his arrival there he was taken ill and did not recover until the following spring. Afterward he was engaged in the mines a little less than three years.

At a place called Glencoe, in the mountains, Mr. Davis assisted in putting up the first sawmill erected in California, at which place he came near losing his life through the carelessness of a fellow-workman. He, however, escaped with the loss of some of the fingers of his right hand. We next find him in Sacramento County, where he became owner of a dairy ranch and operated this in partnership with another man about four years. In the meantime he assisted in the organization of Eldorado County, and voted on the adoption of a State Constitution, casting his vote in favor of having California admitted as a free State. He was chosen one of the County Commissioners and was otherwise prominent in the affairs of the county while remaining there. His subsequent movements we have already indicated.

In the fall of 1862, having returned to Illinois, Mr. Davis was elected to the General Assembly, being a member of the Legislature during the interesting and important sessions which followed. He has represented his township in the County Board of Supervisors several terms. Politically he votes the Democratic ticket. During the war he took an active part in upholding the Union cause, encouraging enlistments and giving substantial aid. He became identified with the Masonic fraternity in the fall of 1861, and is now a member of W. C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, R.A.M. He has been connected with the Presbyterian Church since 1868.

ARTHUR LEE HEREFORD is editor of the Woodford *Sentinel*, and his facile pen and able management have made it one of the best and most popular newspapers in this part of the State. Our subject is a native of the county, born in Palestine Township, April 1, 1858. His father, Levan P. Hereford, a pioneer settler of Woodford County, was a Virginian by birth, born near the town of Leesburg, Loudoun County, March 3, 1815. His father, Ammon Hereford, is thought to have been a native of the same county, while his father, great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Herefordshire, England, and later in life, coming to America with his family, bought a large tract of land in Virginia, and became the owner of a fine plantation and a large number of slaves. He passed the remainder of his life in his Virginia home. The grandfather of our subject served in the navy during the War of 1812, and never enjoyed good health after his experience of military life, but died a few years after leaving the marine service. The maiden name of his wife was Miss Virginia Powell. She was a native of Virginia, and a grandaughter of the illustrious Gen. Greene, of Revolutionary fame. She came to Illinois with her children, and passed her last days in this State. The father of our subject was but nine years old when his father died, and he was reared by his grandparents after that event. He continued to live in old Virginia, among the pleasant scenes of his

childhood, till 1836, when he joined the tide of emigration that was flowing westward, and came to this State by those great highways of travel—the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers—to Peoria, and thence to Tazewell County, to the part of it now embraced in Woodford County. He commenced life by working by the day or month, as chance offered, and after he had saved money enough to buy an ox team, he went to Clark County, where he rented land, and farmed a little, and chopped wood. During his residence there, he made a few trips down the Mississippi River to New Orleans, with flatboats loaded with produce. On his arrival at that city he would sell the flatboats as well as the produce. In a few years he returned from Clark County to Washington, and buying a threshing machine, he operated it a part of each year, and the remainder of the time engaged in teaming. He used to take grain to Chicago, and on the return trip brought back merchandise from that city. About 1852 he came to Woodford County, and entered a tract of land in Palestine Township, a part of it lying near the village of Secor. He developed a good farm, and meeting with more than ordinary success, he bought more farms, and became quite wealthy. For some time he was agent for Isaac Underhill, a large land owner, of Peoria. He continued to reside in Secor till his demise, Dec. 23, 1876, when a valuable citizen was lost to that place, one who had been instrumental in bringing about its prosperity. He was known and honored throughout the county, and took a prominent part in public affairs. He was an influential member of the County Board of Supervisors, and served as Chairman of that august body several terms. He took a lively interest in politics, and was one of the leaders of the Democratic party, and was a delegate to many county, district and State conventions. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Louisa M. Powell, and she was born in Loudoun County, Va., a daughter of Mahlon and Johanna (Schohagan) Powell. She is still living in Secor. She is the mother of eight children, seven of whom grew to maturity.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in Secor, and at the youthful age of seventeen he commenced teaching, and taught very successfully the ensuing year. In 1876 he commenced studying law with Judge Shaw, of Lacon, and in the fall of the same year he became a student at the Union College of Law at Chicago. He was graduated from that institution in the spring of 1878, having gained a good knowledge of his profession, and was admitted to the bar at Mt. Vernon in 1879. He then went to the town of Clyde, Cloud Co., Kan., and opened an office, and was engaged in the practice of his profession there with very good success till the month of December, 1880. At that time he renounced law to enter the more inviting field of journalism, for which he has a decided taste, and returning to Woodford County, he bought the El Paso *Journal*. He was prosperously engaged in its management till January, 1885, and from that time till 1888 he was connected with the Chicago *Tribune* and *News*. In that month he became the editor of the Woodford *Sentinel*. Under his able editorship this paper is undoubtedly becoming an educator of the people, a guide in political matters and in public affairs. Through its columns our subject uses his influence to rouse public spirit, and promote all schemes for the benefit of the city or county.

Mr. Hereford is of an active temperament, is a keen observer of men and things, possesses marked literary talent, and bringing a well-trained mind to bear on his work, in the few short years since he entered the journalistic field, he has made a name for himself in the editorial world, and has placed himself among the most progressive members of his profession.

ALBERT M. KINDIG is classed among the the native citizens of Woodford County who, within the last decade, have stepped to the front to perform their share in the support and propagation of the great agricultural interests of this fine farming region. The son of a pioneer, he is pursuing his calling on the old homestead in Roanoke Township, where he was born,

and where he has passed his entire life, and which his father purchased from the Government many years ago, when it was a tract of wild prairie land.

Our subject comes of good Pennsylvanian and Virginian stock. His father, Benjamin G. Kindig, was born in Lancaster County, Pa., Sept. 29, 1814, and when he was a small lad his parents removed to Virginia, and there he grew to manhood, and in 1842 was married to Delila Shotwell, a native of Page County, that State. In 1851 he came with his family to Illinois, where he thought he could better his condition and build up a more comfortable home for his wife and children than in the place where he was then living. The long journey hither was made with a team, and he found this section of the country sparsely settled, and most of the land still in the hands of the Government. He spent nearly a year in Metamora, and then located in Roanoke, where our subject now lives. He bought the land, a part of which was covered with timber and brush, and the remainder being wild prairie, at the low rate of $1.50 an acre. After paying for his homestead he had but little cash left in his pocket, and only one team to work the land. Wolves were plentiful at that time, and deer and an abundance of other wild game supplied the family larder. For some years neighbors were few and far between, and the nearest market was at Peoria. He set to work with a will to make the best of his resources, and after procuring lumber at Peoria and building a dwelling for his family, he set about the pioneer task of clearing his land and preparing it for cultivation, and in the course of years, by persevering and well-directed toil, he developed a fine farm, on which he continued to make his residence until the year 1885. In that year he removed to Iroquois County, this State, and bought a valuable farm three and one-half miles from Onarga, and there rounded out a long and useful life Oct. 9, 1888. He was in every respect a thoroughly good man, whom to know was to esteem. He was a prominent member of the Christian Church, and for many years an Elder, and he earnestly strove to disseminate the Gospel. His estimable wife, who was the worthy companion of such a man, is still spared to her children, and makes her home on the farm where he spent his last years. She is the mother of nine children, seven of whom grew to maturity—Eliza A., Mary E., Amanda, John D., Albert M., James A. and Frank.

The subject of this brief biography was born on the farm where he now resides, Oct. 14, 1859, and here the years of his life have been passed. He received a very good education in the local public schools, and at home a sound, practical training in agricultural pursuits. The high principles of truth and honesty were early instilled into his mind by wise, Christian parents, and have guided him to an honorable, upright manhood. He chose the calling to which he had been bred, having a natural inclination for it, and since this farm came into his possession has taken pride in keeping it up to the same high standard that it had attained under his father's management.

On the 18th of February, 1885, Mr. Kindig and Miss Gertie Wilson were united in the holy bonds of matrimony, and to them one child has been born, Lee F. Mrs. Kindig is a native of Metamora, born Feb. 27, 1865, and a daughter of Thomas and Josephine (Sager) Wilson.

Our subject is a young man of sturdy enterprise, possessing good capabilities and a steadfast will, so that his chances for a successful career as a farmer are very promising. He and his amiable wife are members of the Christian Church, and their fidelity to their religious belief is evidenced in their daily conduct. Mr. Kindig is a firm supporter of the Prohibition party.

JAMES W. ROBESON, one of the most prominent and successful farmers of the county, resides on section 7, Palestine Township, where he owns a fine farm of 136 acres. Of him it can be said what is true of but a few, that he was born and reared in the community where he still makes his home. His birth occurred in what is now Olio Township, Jan. 19, 1837. The family is of Irish descent. Andrew Robeson, its founder in America, was a native of the Emerald

Isle, but in early manhood emigrated to America, and located in North Carolina. His people were numbered among the prominent and highly respected families of his native land, and were followers of the Presbyterian faith. In North Carolina, he formed the acquaintance of a Miss Emerick, who afterwards became his wife. She was born in North Carolina, of German parentage. After her marriage with Mr. Robeson was celebrated, the young couple began their domestic life near Wellsburg, W. Va., and after the birth of their only child—James, father of our subject, removed to Kentucky, settling near Hopkinsville, where their son was reared to manhood.

In his early life, James Robeson resolved to study for the ministry, and acting upon that determination became a student under the great Christian minister, B. W. Stone, one of the most eminent divines of the age. On arriving at man's estate, he was united in marriage with Jane Earl, who was born in Kentucky, and reared in the vicinity of Hopkinsville, that State. By his marriage he came into possession of a large number of slaves, but believing it contrary to the teachings of the Bible, to hold in bondage any of the human race, he liberated all but two, to whom he could not give their freedom as he could not vouch for their good behavior. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Robeson, while residing in Kentucky, and as he did not wish to rear them in the midst of slavery and its influences, he resolved to come to the North, and locate in a free State. He chose Illinois as the scene of his future labors and with his family made the trip across the country in covered wagons, camping out by the roadside at night. At length they reached Walnut Grove, then known as Ross' Point in Olio Township, where he took up his residence. The family moved into a little log cabin, which had been previously erected by one of the early settlers, and began life in this county in true pioneer style. Elder Robeson labored hard to make a home. All week long he engaged in the cultivation of his land, and on Sunday preached the gospel to the people of the community. Some years later, he went to Washington, Tazewell County, where his life was spent in a similar manner, and afterward purchased a farm southwest of Secor, where he remained for a few years. His next place of residence was at Bowling Green, where he engaged in ministerial duties for about four years, and also engaged in the mercantile business, when he again returned to his farm near Secor. He possessed unbounded energy and great strength of purpose, which enabled him to successfully combat against the trials, hardships and difficulties incident to frontier life. He carried on agricultural pursuits until 1862, when he received and accepted a call from the church at Secor, and also engaged in pastoral duties in other places. In McLean County, he engaged in evangelical work, and his labors were very effective. He did great good for the cause, and through his instrumentality many were led to accept the doctrines which he advocated. He was a man of intelligence, possessing more than ordinary ability, and by his eloquence and earnestness of expression won many hearts. Only a few weeks prior to his death he laid aside his duties and retired to private life. His uprightness and honesty of purpose won him the confidence and love of all; of him it may be truly said that the world is better for his having lived. His loved wife, who was born March 2, 1806, died at her home in Secor, Feb. 6, 1876. Like her husband, she delighted in doing good and was ever ready to extend a helping hand to the poor and needy. She was a worthy member of the Christian Church, and her many acts of kindness, performed in a quiet and unostentatious manner, won her the love of the entire community, and her memory will long be enshrined in the hearts of those who knew her.

The family circle of Elder Robeson and wife was completed by the birth of the following children: Andrew, the first born died in infancy; Polly A. was married and died at the birth of her first child; Martha A., wife of L. M. Wolley, died at Jamestown, Ark., Feb. 21, 1883, leaving six children, all grown; Betsy J. is the wife of Sanford Shortridge, a farmer residing at Mt. Zion; Hamilton, a farmer in Cruger Township, married Phœbe Jones, by whom he has seven living children, three sons and four daughters; James W., of this sketch, is the next in order of birth; John E., who is a suc-

cessful and skillful painter, and also is proprietor of a hotel in Secor, wedded Mary S. Brown, of Olio Township, who was born and reared in Illinois; C. A. is the husband of Susan Haines, by whom he has three living children, and resides with his family in Secor; Marcus E. is a prominent teacher and attorney in Oklahoma; Albert E. was joined in wedlock with Mary McDowell, of Bates County, Mo., and died at the age of twenty-six years. Three sons of the family, John, C. A. and Marcus served their country in the Rebellion, enlisting as privates in different regiments, and John was the only one wounded during the entire struggle. All the children were members of the Christian Church, and are an honor to their parents.

James W. Robeson, whose name heads this sketch, has been a life-long resident of Woodford County. His education was received in a log school-house, his father teaching part of the time, and under the parental roof he was reared to manhood. He has resided in various parts of the county, as his father was called to take different charges, and remained at home until his marriage, which took place in Palestine Township, Dec. 19, 1861, Miss Margaret M. Richardson becoming his wife. The lady was a daughter of James M. and Nancy Richardson, who are numbered among the early settlers of this county. Five children were born of their union, two of whom are now deceased—Minnie J. and Martha E., who died in childhood. Those living are T. Jay, an intelligent and promising young man, who received his education at Normal and Eureka, and is now a teacher of recognized ability in the county. He intends making the medical profession his life work, and is already pursuing a course of reading in that line; Stella K. and Nannie M. are still at home. The mother of this family, who was born in Palestine Township, Dec. 19, 1841, died at her home Feb. 7, 1888. Her death was caused by cancer, and her loss was sincerely mourned throughout the community. She was one of nature's noble women, and a sincere and faithful member of the Christian Church.

Since his marriage, Mr. Robeson has followed the occupation of farming, and is one of the leading and enterprising citizens of the township. He owns a fine farm of 136 acres, upon which he has made his home since 1861. The entire amount is under a high state of cultivation, the improvements are both useful and ornamental, and the stock which he raises is of the best grades. In business enterprises, he is practical and judicious, yet entertains progressive ideas, and has been eminently successful in his labors. In political sentiment, he is a stalwart supporter of the Democratic party, and has held several official positions, including that of Supervisor and Collector. At the age of sixteen years he united with the Christian Church, and throughout life it has been his daily endeavor to live in harmony with his professions. His integrity is beyond question, and his excellence of character has won him many friends, by whom he is held in high regard.

JACOB BARINGER, who resides on section 36, Roanoke Township, is one of the most prosperous farmers of the county, and is also numbered among its self-made men. His father, John Lewis Baringer, was a native of Stuttgart, the capital of Wurtemberg, Germany, and married Sabina Elizabeth Tabgerusch, who was also born in the same city. They had two children, Caroline and Catherine, who were born in Germany, and with them, in 1830, they set sail for America. The ship missed its way, and for some days their whereabouts was unknown, but after more than than ten weeks from the time when they embarked, they reached America. While on board the sailing vessel "Orinoco," the mother gave birth to her third child, our subject, Jacob. This was on waters bordering the United States, hence he is practically a citizen of this country. On reaching New York City, he was baptized according to the rites of the Lutheran Church, after which the family continued on their way across New Jersey to Philadelphia, Pa. A short time afterwards the father purchased a farm in Bucks County, but the enterprise proved an unprofitable one, in consequence of which he lost all his money. After nine years spent in the Keystone State, they removed to

Ohio, locating on a farm near Dayton, Montgomery County, where they continued to reside until 1846, when once more resuming their westward journey, they came to Woodford County, Ill. For two years Mr. Baringer operated a rented farm, then purchased land of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in Greene Township. After the parents settled in America, the family was increased by the birth of eight children. Among all their offspring, four besides our subject are now living—Sarah A., who married Joseph Dehm, a merchant of Havana, Ill.; Catherine, wife of Louis Weber, also a resident of Havana; Rebecca, wife of Milas Armstrong, who is engaged in farming in Greene Township; and Lydia L., who wedded Joseph D. Powell, also a resident of Greene Township. Those deceased are, Mary Ann; Caroline, wife of Joel Kinsser; Elizabeth, wife of Stephen Armstrong; William H., John L. and John.

Our subject was born on the 24th day of July, 1830, as above stated, on the ocean, and remained in Pennsylvania until nine years of age, when with the family he started for Ohio. Their route lay over the Alleghany Mountains, and he well remembers their pausing to rest upon the top of the ridge, and eating dinner in a beautiful spot, near where flowed a large spring of purest water. When fifteen years of age, he became a resident of Woodford County, Ill. At first, to a person of his genial and social qualities, the solitude of pioneer life was not pleasing, but his home has now become to him the dearest spot on earth, and he is proud, as well he may be, of his pioneer record. Though the settlements were widely scattered, there were some novel scenes to vary the monotony. Deer were still numerous in the vicinity, and at one time he saw a large drove of forty pass near his home. Foxes and wolves were also quite numerous and afforded fine sport to those who enjoyed a hunter's life. The educational advantages, however, were quite limited. There were no graded schools, but the pupils conned their lessons in a little rude log house, such as were common in the pioneer days, with seats made of slabs, and the windows small apertures made in the logs, while an immense fire-place occupied one side of the building. Mr. Baringer, since his school life has been finished, has largely supplemented the knowledge then gained, by varied and extensive reading, and is now an intelligent citizen, who keeps himself well informed on all the leading questions of the day, both political and otherwise. He was early inured to hard labor, and from childhood was taught lessons of industry, economy and perseverance. His pioneer experience developed self-reliance and a strength of purpose which have been of incalculable benefit to him in after life.

On the 16th day of January, 1862, Mr. Baringer was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Mary Ann Cline, daughter of Philip and Annie (Arter) Cline, the former a native of Virginia, the latter of Pennsylvania. Her father was a blacksmith by trade, and followed that occupation during the greater part of his life. The family numbered six children—Joseph, who resides in Eldorado Springs, Mo.; Samuel, who makes his home in the same place, married Miss Ann Sunderland; Sylvanus died at the age of six years; Mary A., wife of our subject, was the fourth in order of birth; Julia A. is now deceased. She was the wife of James Armstrong, and at her death left a family of seven children. Sarah J., the youngest, resides with her husband, R. S. Campbell, in San Diego County, Cal.

Mrs. Baringer is a native of Muskingum County, in the Buckeye State, born Sept. 9, 1830, and was only about six years of age when her parents emigrated to Illinois, settling near Washington, Tazewell County, where she attended the public schools. She remained under the parental roof until her marriage, when the young couple began their domestic life on the farm where they still make their home. One child graces their union, Samuel C., who assists his father in his farming operations. In connection with his eighty acres of land in Roanoke Township, Mr. Baringer owns 120 acres in Palestine Township, and nine acres of timberland in Greene Township, the whole aggregating 209 acres. The improvements which he has made upon his land are both useful and ornamental, and indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is recognized as one of the leading and progressive farmers of the community. His pleasant home is one of the best in the county, and with its

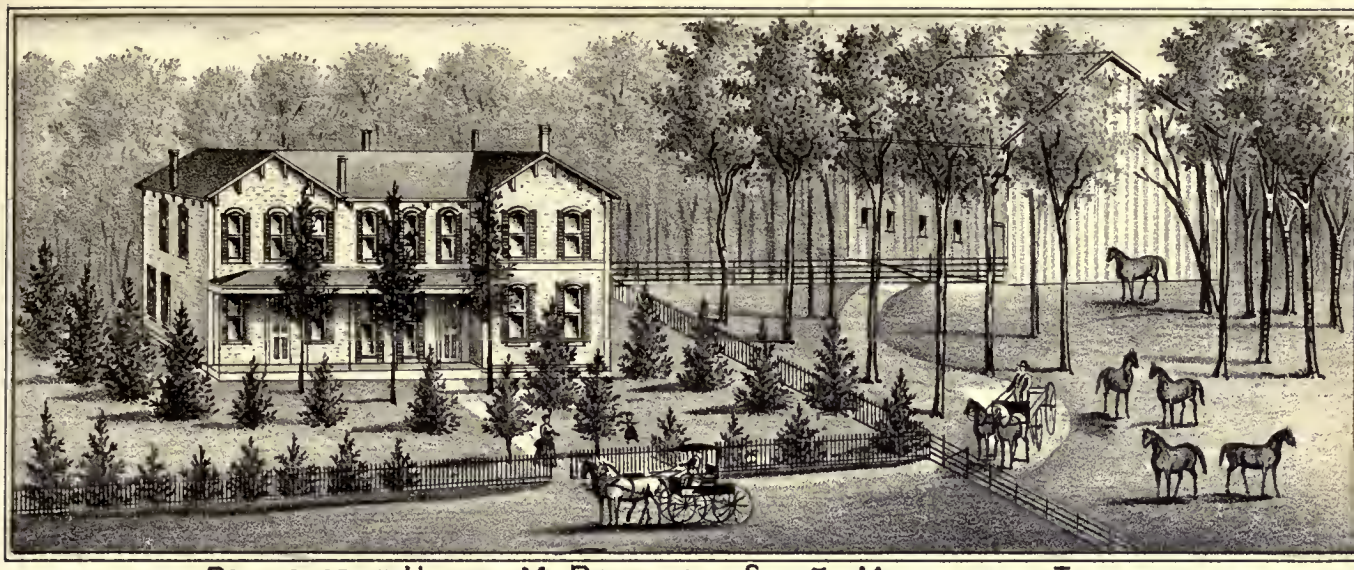
surroundings is represented by an engraving elsewhere in this volume. It is elegantly and tastefully furnished, and would do justice to the more pretentious city residences. Refinement and an easy gracefulness are its chief characteristics, and tell more plainly than words of the cultured mind of the mistress and her appreciation of the beautiful. Both Mr. and Mrs. Baringer are members of the Christian Church of Secor, and hold a high position in the social world, where intelligence and merit are the passports to good society. Public-spirited and progressive, he has long been identified with the best interests of the community, and done all in his power to advance those enterprises which are calculated to promote the general welfare. The cause of education finds in him a special friend, and for sixteen years he proved an efficient and useful member of the School Board. He does not, however, care to hold public office, preferring rather to devote his entire time and attention to his home and business interests. He casts his ballot with the Democratic party, with which he has affiliated since attaining his majority. He has not only witnessed the growth of town and county, but has been an active participant in its progress and development, and has been prominently connected with its advancement since 1846. Few have longer been residents of the community, and it is with pleasure that we present this sketch of one of Woodford County's honored pioneers.

LUDWIG TJADEN, who resides at his pleasant home on section 2 in Palestine Township, is engaged in general farming. He is one of the representative citizens of the community, and is a successful business man. He now owns a fine farm of eighty-two acres, well-improved and cultivated, with good buildings and the best grades of stock. He has there made his home since 1870, and has largely increased the value of his land by the care and labor which he has bestowed upon it. Neatness and regularity everywhere abound, and its well-tilled fields and comfortable home indicate the owner to be a man of practical and progressive ideas.

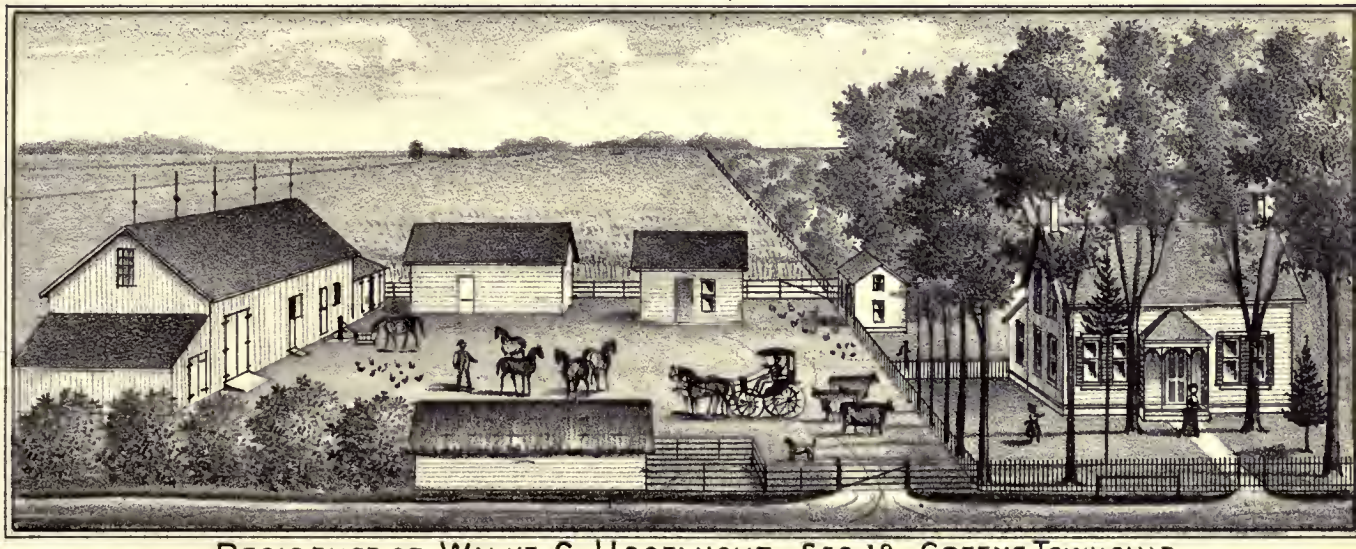
Mr. Tjaden was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1834, and is a son of Heike and Schwantja (Rheinders) Tjaden, both of whom were also born in the Kingdom of Hanover, where they resided for many years. The father made agricultural pursuits his life occupation, being engaged in that business at the time of his death, which occurred in the fifty-first year of his age. Ten children were born of the union of this worthy couple, and after the death of her husband, Mrs. Tjaden, accompanied by three sons and three daughters, set sail for America. The brothers all became residents of Woodford County, Ill., and the daughters located in Mississippi, the mother making her home with them until her death. She died at the home of one of her daughters in 1889, at the extreme old age of ninety years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Tjaden were members of the Lutheran Church, and their children have embraced the faith of that society.

The subject of this notice was reared to manhood in his native land, and for two years served as a soldier in the German army prior to his emigration to America. In 1857, when twenty-three years of age, he bade good-bye to his old home and crossed the broad Atlantic to the land where his life has since been passed. The same year he located in this county, settling in Linn Township, where he engaged in farming. Subsequently, he removed to Cazenovia Township, where he pursued the same vocation, and in 1868 rented land in the township of Palestine. Two years afterwards he purchased the farm on which he now resides, and for almost nineteen years has carried on the work of improving and developing his land.

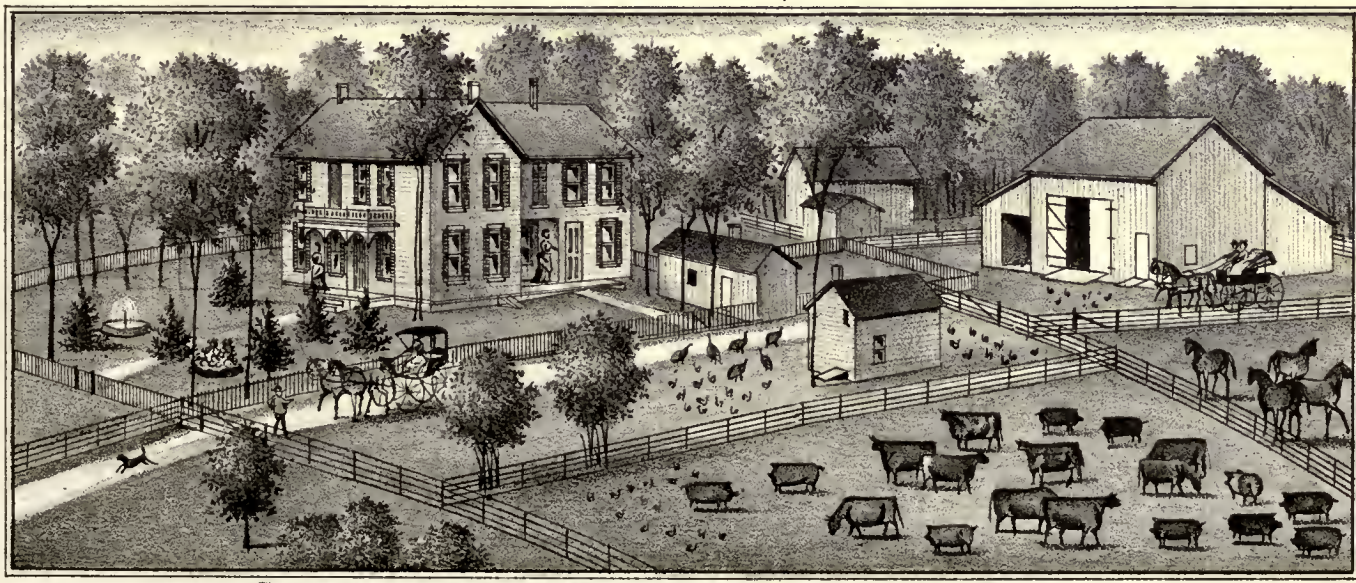
After his arrival in Woodford County, Mr. Tjaden formed the acquaintance of Mrs. Hannah (Stitt) Pickerell, a sister of Samuel Stitt, in whose sketch is given a history of the family. He wooed and won the lady, and in October, 1862, their wedding was celebrated in Cazenovia Township. Mrs. Tjaden was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1833, and in her native county was reared and educated. Previous to her removal she married George Pickerell, and by their union two children were born—Nancy, who is now the wife of Luther



RESIDENCE OF HENRY M. ROBINSON, SEC. 7. MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF WILKE C. HOGELUCHT, SEC. 18. GREENE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF S. H. Mc CLURE, SEC. 36. CRUGER TOWNSHIP.

E. Stowell, proprietor of a hotel in Fillmore County, Neb.; and William, who wedded Lizzie Flick, and is now engaged in farming in Fillmore County, Neb. After the death of Mr. Pickerell, his widow became the wife of our subject, and one child graced their union, Mollie, an intelligent and capable young lady, who is now keeping house for her father. She was married, Aug. 13, 1889, to John Charles Mezger, of El Paso, Ill. The death of the mother occurred at her home in Palestine Township, July 14, 1885, when fifty-one years of age. She was a member of the Christian Church, and a lady whose many excellencies of character and kindness of heart won her many friends.

Mr. Tjaden is numbered among the early settlers of this county, and ranks among its leading farmers. He has borne his part in the work of development and progress, and liberally responds when called upon to aid in the promotion of its public enterprises. He is a valued and worthy citizen, who well merits the high respect in which he is held. In politics his views are in accordance with the principles advocated by the Democratic party, and in religious belief he is a Lutheran.

JOSEPH BOULIER was born March 5, 1849 in Partridge Township, while it was yet in the hands of the sturdy, self-reliant, enterprising pioneers(his father being among the number), who laid the foundations of its prosperity, and made its present flourishing condition possible. Since attaining man's estate, our subject has placed himself by their side, and has in his turn taken up the work of sustaining and advancing the agricultural interests of this community.

His father, Henry Boulier, was born and reared in France, and in about 1836, he emigrated to the United States of America, to better his prospects in life, he and his sister Ann R. being the only members of the family to come to this country. He landed at New Orleans, and thence came up the Mississippi River to Rome, then a mere hamlet, and from there he went to Ft. Clark, as Peoria was then called. He had sold his watch to pay his passage and on his arrival in Partridge Township he was out of money. But with characteristic lightness of heart he did not let that fact disturb him at all, but soon secured work from his brother-in-law, and prudently saving up his earnings, in a short time he had the wherewithal to buy land and become independent. He made a claim to a tract of forty acres, but before he could enter it some one else did so, and he had to pay that man $2.50 per acre for it. He build a log house on the place, and in that rude dwelling our subject first saw the light of day. He subsequently bought other land adjoining, erecting an excellent set of frame buildings, and lived there in prosperity and comfort till his eyes closed in death in 1872. The maiden name of his wife was Mary J. Sauvage, and she was also a native of sunny France. Her father, Joseph Sauvage was born, reared and married in that country, and followed the trade of a millwright and of bridge-builder there many years. In 1835 he came to America with his family, and after staying in New Orleans a short time he came to Woodford County as one of the pioneers. When he landed in New Orleans he had but two cents in his pocket, and when he attempted to exchange them for some necessity, he found that they were counterfeit. He immediately sought and found employment in the Crescent City, and thus obtained funds to enable him to proceed to his destination in this county. He bought land, and farmed and carried on his trade here some years. Later, he removed to Bureau County, and there bought a farm, and made his home there his remaining days. The mother of our subject, a most estimable lady, is now living in Chillicothe, Ill. The father of our subject was prospered in his labors, and became one of the substantial citizens of the township that he had helped to build up. His memory is held in repect not only because he was a worthy pioneer of Woodford County, but on account of his many virtues and his solid worth.

Our subject was the third of the eight children children born to his parents. He was bred to the life of a farmer on the old homestead that was his birthplace, and gained his education in the public schools. In his boyhood days, deer, wild turkeys,

and other kinds of game were plentiful, and betokened the wildness of the surrounding country, and railways have been introduced into the State within his remembrance. He resided with his parents till 1877, affording his father a valuable assistance in the management of his farming interests. In the year just mentioned he established a home on the place where he now resides.

Mr. Boulier and Miss Louisa Hoshor were united in marriage in October, 1875. Mrs. Boulier was born in Spring Bay, Woodford County, of which her father, Jefferson Hosher, was an early settler. He came of hardy pioneer stock, and was a native of Fairfield County, Ohio. His father, George Hoshor, was born in either in Pennsylvania or Virginia of German parentage. He was married in Virginia, and moved from there to Ohio in pioneer times, about 1800, and was one of the earliest settlers in Fairfield County, where he bought a tract of land and established his home in a primeval forest, clearing a farm there, which he made his home till death called him to a higher one. He was a gallant soldier of the War of 1812. The maiden name of his wife was Barbara Mathias, and she died on the old homestead in Ohio at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Mrs. Boulier's father was reared in his native county, and in 1833, when about twenty years of age, he started out into the world to try life for himself, and journeyed westward as far as Illinois on horseback. He had $500 in cash, and he and his brother, William, bought land in Spring Bay Township, on which they erected a saw and grist mill, the first ever built in this section, and they operated it together some time. At length, Jefferson Hosher sold his share in the mill, intending to turn his attention to farming. He became very prosperous and accummulated much property, and owned different tracts of land in Worth and Partridge townships at the time of his death, which occurred on his farm on section 11, this township, Aug. 12, 1872. The maiden name of Mrs. Boulier's mother was Mary Williams, and she was a native of Indiana. Her father, Benjamin Williams, was one of the first settlers of Woodford County, locating here in 1829. His first settlement was made in Worth Township, and there his death took place. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Curry. She was reared in Cincinnati, Ohio, and spent her last days in Spring Bay with her son. Mr. and Mrs. Boulier's happy home circle is completed by the four children that have been born to them—Jessie Winford, Mary Irene, Leslie J., John Stanhope.

In his native township our subject is well and favorably known by his elders, and by those who have grown up with him side by side and by many others. Having passed his whole life here, he enjoys an extensive acquaintance, and has many warm friends, and all testify that in all life's relations and in the performance of its duties, he has acted as becomes a man of principle. As a patriotic citizen should, he interests himself in politics, and uses his influence in favor of the good old Democratic party.

JAMES L. HOYT, one of the enterprising agriculturists of Cruger Township, owns and operates an extensive farm on section 36. He is a son of Vincent Hoyt, a native of the State of New York. His mother was Lucinda Nida, a native of Ohio. They first settled in Licking County, Ohio, coming from that place to this county in 1864, and locating in what is now Cruger Township, they remained here until their forms were laid beneath the sod. They were the parents of eight children, of whom our subject is the fourth. He was born in Licking County, Ohio, June 10, 1834.

Mr. Hoyt passed his boyhood days in his native county, attending the common schools and assisting his parents to the best of his ability until 1855. When he had reached the age of seventeen, he was apprenticed to a carpenter to learn the trade of carpentering, and followed that occupation during the remainder of his stay in Ohio. In 1855 he came to this county and worked at his trade for several years; being a careful, conscientious and skillful workman, and, moreover, taking good care of the dollars he earned, he soon accumulated a snug sum of money, with which he purchased

eighty acres of land. On this estate he has erected a beautiful dwelling, living in it with his family and and keeping his farm in fine condition, although also attending to all the demands of his trade. Besides his homestead he has erected all the other necessary buildings, making them pleasing to the eye, as well as substantial. From time to time he has added to his original purchase until he now has 287 acres in Cruger and Olio townships.

One of the red letter days of his life was March 1, 1860, on which date he was married to the lady of his choice, Miss Eliza E. Grove, a daughter of Abraham and Sarah Grove. Mrs. Hoyt is a native of Olio Township, and is the sister of Mrs. David Grafft; for a record of her ancestry see sketch of David Grafft. Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt have seven sons, named respectively: Joseph E., Calvin, Perry, Daniel T., Frank W., Alonzo and James C. The neighbors of Mr. Hoyt, recognizing his eminent executive ability, have elected him Road Commissioner, an office he has held for the last three years, giving the utmost satisfaction by his prompt and energetic measures. Politically he is a stanch Democrat. Mrs. Hoyt by her many good deeds has endeared herself to a large circle of friends, and finds her religious home in the bosom of the Methodist Church, of which she is a consistent member. A lithographic engraving of Mr. Hoyt's pleasant home appears elsewhere in this volume.

CAPT. JOSEPH M. McCULLOCH. This gentleman, a member of the farming community of Woodford County, residing in Cazenovia Township, is a veteran of the late war, in which he won an honorable military record. He is a fine type of the citizen-soldiers of this country, who after bravely taking up arms in her defense, and nobly winning her cause amid the hardships and perils of life on Southern battlefields, returned to their old homes, and quietly resumed the peaceful pursuits they had abandoned a few years before at their country's call, and have since been important factors in advancing her great agricultural, commercial and financial interests in every direction. Our subject has thus materially aided in promoting the prosperity of Woodford County, and has taken an active part in its civic life, having ably filled some of its most important offices.

The Captain comes of good Pennsylvania stock, and is himself a native of the Keystone State, born at Big Spring, Cumberland County, Feb. 23, 1831. His father, William McCulloch, was born in the same place, in the month of March, 1799. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject was a native of Scotland, and removed from there to Ireland, whence he emigrated to America in Colonial times, and settling in Eastern Pennsylvania, spent the remainder of his life there. The grandfather of our subject, James McCulloch, was born in Kentucky. He was one of the early settlers of Cumberland County, where he secured a large tract of land, and cleared a fine farm from the primeval forests of Pennsylvania, continuing to reside on it till his death in 1825. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Henderson, and she was a native of Kentucky. She died on the old homestead in Big Spring, some years after her husband's decease. There were eight children born to them, namely: John, Eliza, Sarah, Thomas, William, James, Mary J. and Margaret. The father of our subject was reared on the home farm. There were no railways in that part of the country in those days, when he was a young man, and for some eight or ten years he was employed in teaming between his home and Baltimore, eighty miles distant, and Philadelphia, 150 miles distant, driving a six-horse team. Otherwise he was always engaged in farming, having inherited a part of his father's farm, on which he always made his home until his death in 1886. The maiden name of his wife was Jane C. McKee, and she was born in Springfield, Cumberland Co., Pa., in 1808. Her father, Joseph McKee, was born in Ireland. He took part in the Irish Rebellion, and a reward was offered for his arrest, dead or alive. He was secreted for some weeks, but finally managed to escape to America. During the time he was in hiding, he committed to memory the metrical version of the Psalms, which he never forgot. After coming to this country, he located in Springfield, Cumberland Co., Pa., and there worked at

his trade of a wheelright some years. He then bought a farm in the vicinity of Big Spring, and his son carried on the farm, while he worked at his trade. He made his home on his farm till his death. He was a member of the Associate Reformed Church, and while his family rode to church, he insisted on walking, although the house of worship was three and one-half miles distant. One Sunday morning, while he was on his way to church with a neighbor, he fell dead in the road. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Scouler, and she was born in Cumberland County, of Scotch parentage. The mother of our subject died on the home farm in 1877. There were eleven children born of her marriage, ten of whom grew to maturity —John S., Joseph M., James, Alexander S., William H., Thomas M., Elizabeth, Mary, Jane and Helen.

Captain McCulloch was reared and educated in his native town, and as soon as large enough, commenced to assist on the farm, and gained a good practical knowledge of agriculture in all its branches. He remained on the old homestead with his parents till his marriage in 1853, and then three weeks after that event he started with his bride for Illinois. He located at Low Point, where he resided one year, and then he bought the farm where he now lives. It was a tract of wild prairie at the time with not even a furrow turned, or any sign of a habitation on it. He immediately erected a small frame house, and at once commenced the pioneer task of developing his land into a farm. In 1862 he laid aside all personal aims, imbued with the patriotic desire to aid his country in the hour of her greatest need, and leaving his wife, an exceedingly capable woman and a good manager, in charge of his affairs, he enlisted, in the month of August, in Company C, 77th Illinois Infantry, and when the company was organized he was chosen captain. He commanded his company in the Vicksburg campaign and in the Red River expedition, and under his brave leadership his men did good service on the battlefield. He was with his regiment till April 8, 1864, when he was captured by the Confederates, and for fourteen months thereafter he had the misfortune to be confined in the rebel prison at Camp Ford. His spirit chafed at his enforced imprisonment and inactivity, and at the life worse than that on the battlefield. At last he was paroled, and in July, 1865, he was discharged, glad that the cruel war was over, but sorry that he could not have taken part in its last battles. He returned home to his brave wife, who had so patiently awaited him, sometimes fearful that the rebel prison would not yield him up alive, and yet she had faithfully carried on the farm work, and had maintained the home in all its coziness and comfort. Our subject resumed the management of his farm, and has now the entire tract of 160 acres under fine cultivation, neatly fenced, well improved, and supplied with an excellent set of substantial frame buildings.

Feb. 24, 1853, Captain McCulloch was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Phillips, and thereby secured, as we have seen, a devoted wife, who looks carefully after the comfort of her household. She was born in Springfield, Cumberland Co., Pa., and is a daughter of Edward and Jane (Adair) Phillips.

Mr. and Mrs. McCulloch have four children living, as follows: Eva J. married John Hamilton, of Clearfield, Iowa, and they have three children—Maud, Minnie and a baby, Leigh M.; Hattie P. married John W. Bean, of Anthony, Kan.; Zilla B. married the Rev. William Story, of Oxford, Pa., and they have two children, Russell M. and Minnie M.; William E., the only son, is a student of Monmouth College, Ill.

Capt. McCulloch is a true, noble-hearted gentleman, always pleasant and courteous in his intercourse with others, and very popular among his associates. In business matters he is wide awake and keen, and judicious and fair in his dealings. He has filled various offices of trust in the township and county, and in 1865 he was elected County Treasurer on the soldiers' ticket, and has the distinction of being the only Republican ever elected to that position in Woodford County. In 1873 he was elected County Judge, and so well did he discharge the duties incumbent on him in that responsible office that he was twice re-elected, and served with honor nine years. The Captain cast his first Presidential vote for Franklin Pierce. He, however, differed in his political views very widely from the party that elected that gentleman to the Presidency, especially on the slavery question, so that on the

formation of the Republican party he promptly joined its ranks, and was a strong adherent of that party till after the second election of Gen. Grant. He then united with the Greenback party and voted with them till 1884. He had always been an advocate of temperance, and in that year he cast his vote with the Prohibitionists, and in 1888 he was the candidate of that party for the Legislature, and in a canvass of the entire district polled a good many votes. He and his family are among the leading members of the United Presbyterian Church, and our subject is an earnest worker in the Sunday-school. He was for ten years engaged in Sunday-school mission work here, and for many years has been closely identified with the County Sunday-school Association, was Secretary of the same for four years, and is now its President.

SIMON SWAN. This gentleman, who is a prominent resident of Clayton Township, is the only member of his father's family who makes his home in the United States. The land of his nativity is Ireland, where his mother died. The father, after the death of his life companion, removed to the Cape of Good Hope, where all his children, with the exception of our subject, are now living. In that remote land he was laid to rest, his grave being separated from that of his wife by thousands of miles of intervening waters.

Mr. Simon Swan was born in the historic city of Dublin, that place so dear to all the patriotic children of the Emerald Isle, and his birth is recorded as having occurred Dec. 21, 1838. His parents were Miles and Martha Swan, whose family numbered ten children, namely: John, Mary, Frank, Simon (of this sketch), Sarah, Martha, Essie, Patrick, Peter, and one child, Michael, deceased.

Our subject came to America in 1856, stopping first at Rochester, N. Y., where he worked as a teamster. In 1857 he followed the course of emigration westward, and removed to Galesburg, Ill., where he worked in a machine shop. He also for a short time made his home in Chicago, and in the autumn of 1857 came to Woodford County, remaining in El Paso. In 1858 he made a permanent change of residence, for then he rented land in Clayton Township, which, with the exception of six years spent in Marshall County, has been his home during all the succeeding years.

When the Union called upon patriotic citizens to uphold the banner of freedom, no native son of America responded to the cry with greater enthusiasm than Mr. Swan. Nor did this enthusiasm wane when he was brought into conflict with the enemy. He was one of the bravest, and could always be found in the front ranks in the thickest of the fight. He enlisted in 1862 in Company G, 90th Illinois Infantry, and served during a period of almost three years. His regiment was in many of the fiercest battles of the war, besides participating in various skirmishes. Some of their battles were: Coldwater, Vicksburg, Jackson, Miss., Colliersville, Missionary Ridge, siege of Knoxville, Resaca, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta July 19, 22, and 28, Jonesboro, Lovejoy Station, Rome, Gadsden, Jennison's Bridge, Ft. McAlister, Savannah, Charleston, Columbia, Bentonville, and others of minor importance. He was mustered out as a corporal. In all these engagements he participated, with the exception of Dallas, Ga. A short time previous to this he had been wounded at the battle of Resaca, May 13, receiving a shot in the left arm. After this accident he was sent to the hospital, but received no other severe injuries during the course of the war.

When the war cloud disappeared and once more peace hovered over the nation, he returned to Clayton Township, and began to farm on section 5. He now owns 100 acres of land, all very nicely improved and in good condition.

Mr. Swan celebrated his marriage with Miss Jennie Whitton on the the 19th day of October, 1871. She is the daughter of Thomas and Margaret Whitton, and was born in Scotland Dec. 16, 1845. Her parents left their native country, and crossing the Atlantic, settled in Washington, Ill., where they yet reside. Mr. and Mrs. Whitton had a family of

seven children, whose names are recorded as follows: Lizzie, Jennie, Robert, Mary, Richard, Willie and Margaret. Willie is deceased.

Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Swan five yet remain, namely: Maggie, born Aug. 15, 1876; Mattie, Sept. 15, 1878; Frank, Nov. 29, 1880; Elsie, Jan. 15, 1883; and Emmet, Nov. 18, 1888. Thus surrrounded by his lovely family, and in his pleasant home, Mr. Swan may certainly be regarded as one of those to whom fortune has been kind. He, himself, was prevented from attending school when he was young, and was thus a self-made man, but he has been very anxious to secure the best possible advantages for his children. He is well read and familiar with the principal topics of information and interest, being also noted for his fine penmanship. In politics he supports the Democratic party, and has been School Director for the period of nine years, giving universal satisfaction in this position.

It is very fitting that a man who has worked his way from poverty to affluence, and has identified himself with all the important interests of Woodford County, should be represented in the ALBUM, not only by a biographical review, but also by an engraving of his beautiful home. He and his family are highly respected in the community in which they reside, and their friends all trust that they may be spared to pass many years of usefulness in their home circle as well as in the society of their friends.

PETER BELSLY. Partridge Township has no more worthy representative of its flourishing agricultural interests than this gentleman, who was born within its borders, educated in its schools, and in the opening years of a stalwart, vigorous manhood took his place among its busy, shrewd farmers and stock-raisers, and while actively engaged in laying up a competence, has aided in promoting the material welfare of his native township and county. He is the son of a pioneer of this part of Woodford County, who assisted in the development of the resources of this region, and here reclaimed a fertile farm from the primeval wilds.

John Belsly, the father of our subject, was born in France in the month of October, 1809, and when a young man he came to America, and locating in Woodford County, was one of the early pioneers of Partridge Township. He at once set about the building up of a comfortable home, entering a tract of Government land on section 22, on which he erected a log house, in which his children were born. His land was mostly covered with brush and timber, but by hard labor he cleared it, put it under fine cultivation, and at the time of his death had a highly-cultivated, well-improved farm, and from poverty had arisen to comparative affluence, his only capital when starting out in life having been good health, willing hands, and keen commonsense. When he came here to cast his lot with the early settlers of the county, the country roundabout was still in its primitive condition, and the inhabitants of this sparsely-settled region enjoyed but few of the conveniences of civilized life. Pekin and the other river towns some distance away were the nearest markets till the introduction of railways, when inland towns sprang up in their pathway. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Barbara Ruge, and she was likewise a native of France. She now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Kamp, in Partridge Township. She bore her husband seven children, five of whom whom grew to maturity, namely: Kate, Joseph, Peter, Magdalena and Barbara.

The subject of this biographical review was born in this township, in the humble pioneer home of his parents, Jan. 14, 1844, and under the influence of its primitive surroundings he grew to a healthful, active manhood, gleaning a good education in the pioneer schools that were conducted in rude log houses, one that he attended being of the roughest description, lacking even a floor. He continued to reside with his parents until his marriage, affording his father most valuable assistance on the farm, and at the same time gaining a good practical knowledge of farming in all its branches. After his marriage he rented land five years, and then invested in the place where he now

resides. He has greatly increased its value by careful cultivation, a judicious expenditure of money, and by the erection of a fine and conveniently arranged set of frame buildings. He has added to his first purchase, and is now the possessor of 260 acres of land that is of unsurpassed fertility and productiveness.

Mr. Belsly acknowledges that his present prosperous circumstances have been brought about partly by the assistance of his wife. Her maiden name was Lizzie Kanive, and she is a native of Prussia. She came to America with her father, Valentine Kanive, when quite young. She is the mother of seven children, of whom one, Joseph, died at the age of two years. The others are John, Emma, Kate, Barbara, Della and Ida.

Those who have watched the course of our subject through life, agree that he has carried himself in every relation as becomes a manly man and an upright citizen. In the management of his affairs he has shown himself to have a good knowledge of his calling, and to be endowed with a clear head, an ability to perform his work well, and other excellent powers. He and his wife are people of true religious convictions, and have trained their children to lead Christian lives, the family being members of the Omish or Mennonite Church. In politics Mr. Belsly uses his influence in favor of the Republican party.

JOHN TYLER, who resides on section 1, is numbered among the prominent and progressive men of El Paso Township, where he has made his home since 1858. Throughout the greater part of his life he has followed farming and stock-raising, and is still engaged in that business. He now owns a fine farm of 200 acres with all modern conveniences, which is considered one of the best in the county.

Mr. Tyler was born in the town of Virgil, Courtland Co., N. Y., on the 8th of January, 1831, and is a son of Stephen W. Tyler. His father was born in the eastern part of the Empire State, and was descended from English ancestry. In early youth, he removed with his parents to Courtland County, where he was reared to manhood and married Miss Margaret Saltsman. Mrs. Tyler, whose progenitors were natives of Holland, was born in the Mohawk River Valley, and also came with her parents to Courtland County during her childhood. The young couple began their domestic life upon a farm near the old homes, where they had been reared, and there passed the remainder of their lives. Mr. Tyler died at the age of seventy-five years, his wife surviving until July 2, 1885, when she, too, passed away. Though not members of the Baptist Church, they attended religious services there, and ranked among the best citizens of Courtland County, where they so long made their home. Their family numbered eight children, four sons and four daughters, and with the exception of one who died in youth, all lived to mature years, while six of that number still survive.

John Tyler, whose name heads this sketch, was reared and educated in his native county, but on attaining to man's estate, left the parental roof to try his fortune in the West. The 3d of January, 1856, witnessed his arrival in Woodford County, Ill., where he has since made his home. From that time he has been prominently identified with the growth and progress of the town and county, and is numbered among its leading citizens. He first located upon a rented farm in Panola Township, where he made his home for two years, then removed to El Paso Township, and purchased a quarter section of land, comprising a part of his present fine farm. Later he extended the boundaries of his land by adding forty acres to the original tract. Though the entire amount was in its primitive condition, he was undaunted by the arduous labors which would be necessary to place it under a state of cultivation, and with a resolute will began the task. By degrees the wild prairie was transformed into richly cultivated fields, until now his fine farm of 200 acres pays a golden tribute to his care and cultivation, while its many useful and beautiful improvements indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. Mr. Tyler's life has been one of industry. Indolence or idleness is utterly foreign to his nature, and when he

determines to accomplish any purpose, no trial or difficulty can cause him to relinquish the end for which he strives.

On his arrival in this county, Mr. Tyler was still a single man, but he here formed the acquaintance of Miss Sarah Brewer, whom he wooed and won. She was born in Panola Township, on the 15th of February, 1839, and is a daughter of John and Rebecca (Cox) Brewer, who were natives of Ohio. They were also reared and married in the Buckeye State, but subsequently removed to Bloomington, Ill., and about three years afterward came to Woodford County, where Mr. Brewer purchased large tracts of land from the Government, in Panola and El Paso townships. The farm on which our subject now resides, was a portion of the land which he entered at that time. He began life in this county as a farmer, and ere he was called to his final home, had improved a large amount of his land. He was enterprising and progressive, and was recognized as one of the prominent and influential citizens of the community. He did not live to witness the entire development of the county, for about the year 1850, at the age of fifty years, his death occurred. His wife then made her home with her children, until called to meet the loved one gone before. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Tyler, in 1880, at the advanced age of eighty years. This worthy couple were members of the United Brethren Church, and were faithful and consistent Christian people. who did what they could that the Master's cause might prosper.

By the union of John Tyler and Sarah Brewer, three children were born, one of whom is deceased —Emma, who died at the age of ten months; Lee, who was educated in the schools at El Paso, is now engaged in operating the home farm; W. B., who for some time was a student in El Paso, and later pursued a course of study in the Chicago Business College, now holds the office of Deputy County Clerk of Woodford County, and is one of the leading young farmers of the community. Mr. Tyler has also held various official positions, and for twelve years has served as Supervisor. He is a Democrat, in politics, and his sons also support the same party. Progressive and public-spirited, he is a worthy and valued citizen, and has many warm friends throughout the county, where he is so well and favorably known.

We present to our readers a fine engraving of the residence and surroundings on the farm of Mr. Tyler.

ROGER B. DICKINSON, the youngest of a family of ten children, the offspring of Elijah and Mary (Burrus) Dickinson, was born in Cruger Township, this county, Dec. 18, 1840, and was there reared to manhood, receiving his early education in the common school. In 1860 he entered the law department of the Michigan University, but the following year the Civil War having broken out, returned home and enlisted in Company G, 17th Illinois Infantry, in which he served three years, and fought in many of the important battles. After the battle of Shiloh, he was promoted from Fifth to First Sergeant, and during the entire time of his service suffered neither illness or wounds. After leaving the army he read law in Peoria for a time, and was admitted to the bar in 1867. He has not followed the profession, however. He was for a time engaged in the manufacture of pumps at Peoria, but in the fall of 1869, returned to his native township, and settled on the old homestead, where he has since lived, giving his attention to farming.

In 1877-78, Mr. Dickinson erected the fine brick residence which he has since occupied. He is the owner of over 400 acres of land. He was married near Eureka, Oct. 10, 1866, to Miss Annie, daughter of Richard Jones. She was born in Williamsport, Pa., and is now the mother of six children— Grace, Jay, Rogie and Eugene (twins); Nell and Robert. The eldest daughter is attending the Illinois State University at Champaign; Jay is a student of Eureka College. In the spring of 1866, Mr. Dickinson was appointed Assistant Assessor in the Internal Revenue Service for Woodford County. He has taken an active part in politics, and in the fall of 1888, was the candidate for State Senator on the Republican ticket. He has been Secretary of

THOMAS CLARK.

DELENCY F. CLARK.

Woodford County Central Committee for several years, and has also officiated as School Director. Socially, he belongs to Dan Miles Post No. 270, G. A. R.

The parents of our subject were natives of Virginia, whence they emigrated to Illinois in 1835, and purchased a tract of land in Cruger Township, this county, establishing a homestead in its eastern part. The father entered additional land and labored upon it until his death, which occurred in July, 1862. The mother subsequently made her home with her children, and died at the residence of William Major, in Olio Township, in the fall of 1868. Eight of their ten children lived to mature years, four sons and four daughters. The father was an active member of the Christian Church, and one of the founders of Eureka College, after which he served several years as President of the Board of Trustees.

GEORGE MARSHALL CLARK, the son of pioneer parents whom he accompanied to Woodford County in his early childhood, grew with the growth of the county, and since attaining man's estate has been one of its most progressive and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers, and has materially advanced its interests. He has a large, finely improved farm in Cazenovia Township, where he is enjoying life in one of the most charming and cozy homes in the locality. Mr. Clark is also closely identified with the agricultural interests of Iroquois County, where he owns a large tract of choice farming land, many acres of which are under tillage, and which is provided with necessary buildings and all the accessories of a good farm.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in the town of Nelson, Madison Co., N. Y., March 13, 1841. His father, Thomas Clark, was of New England antecedents and birth, born in Massachusetts Jan. 7, 1805. His father, Bill Clark, is supposed to have been a native of that State, and was the son of a gallant Revolutionary soldier. He was bred to the life of a farmer, and moving to New York at some period of his life, became an early settler of the town of Nelson, buying a tract of heavily timbered land there that formed a part of the primeval forest of that section of the country. That was before the era of railways and canals in that State, and he used to draw his grain to Albany, 110 miles distant, to dispose of it. He cleared a farm, and made his home on it till death called him to a better one.

The father of our subject was but a boy when his parents moved to New York State, and he there grew to man's estate, married and established a home. He rented land and carried on farming there till 1844, when he determined to avail himself of the cheaper lands and fairer opportunities that Illinois offered to enterprising farmers, and in the month of June he set out on his journey to this State, traveling via the Erie Canal to Buffalo, whence he came by boat on Lake Erie to Cleveland, and from there went by canal to the Ohio River, then continued the voyage on that river and up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to the interior of this State, and landed at Lacon, whence he came on foot to Cazenovia Township. Here he bought an eighty acre tract of land on section 22, paying $3 an acre for it. After concluding the purchase of that bit of wild prairie, he returned to his old home in New York, and in the fall came back to this place with a two horse team, bringing his wife, son and another child, and accomplishing the journey in six weeks and two days. There being no house on his place, he and his family were given shelter in the dwelling of a hospitable neighbor near by, and in the fall of 1845 he commenced the erection of a frame house, which on account of sickness he did not complete till 1846. The shingles were from Wisconsin, and were brought here by the roundabout way of St. Louis, while the boards for the house were sawed in a mill in the township operated by horse power. Mr. Clark continued his residence here till his death in 1881, when he rounded out a long and useful life. He was a man whom to know was to respect, as he possessed many sterling qualities of head and heart, and was true to himself and to all with whom he had dealings. In the management of his affairs he

displayed wisdom and prudence, thus accumulating a goodly amount of property, and in so doing added to the material wealth of his adopted county, in whose welfare he was always interested. His wife survived him till 1886, when she too passed away from the scenes of her usefulness. Her maiden name was Delency Fidelbra Marshall, and she was born in Cazenovia Township, N. Y., July 9, 1807, a daughter of Simeon and Sarah Marshall.

Our subject and one other child who died in infancy, were the only children born to his parents. He was but three and one-half years old when he came to this State with them, yet he still retains some recollection of that memorable journey across the country, and has a distinct remembrance of the pioneer life that obtained here in his boyhood and early manhood. For some years after the family came here deer and wild turkeys were plenty, and the prairie continued sparsely settled for a long time. His mother, who was a notable housewife, used to spin and weave all the cloth and make all the garments used in the family. He being the only surviving child, our subject always made his home with his parents, and was their stay and comfort in their declining years. He has been very much prospered in his work as a practical farmer, and has acquired a large amount of valuable property. He has besides his fine, well-appointed farm in Cazenovia Township, 640 acres of land of exceeding fertility in Iroquois County, 250 acres of which are under excellent tillage, and there is a set of frame buildings on the place and two artesian wells.

In the month of September 1880 our subject took an important step in his life whereby he secured a good wife in the person of Miss Mary Ellen McFarlin, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Davis) McFarlin. Her parents now reside in Martinton Township, Iroquois County. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have one child, Eva.

Mr. Clark has accumulated wealth by the exercise of those traits that mark him as a man more than ordinarily gifted with tact, force of character, strength of purpose, and business acumen. It is to such men that Woodford County is indebted for its high standing as a great agricultural centre. Our subject has many pleasant social qualities that commend him to his neighbors and others, and he and his wife are highly thought of in this community. In his political views he was formerly a Republican, and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. But he is now independent, preferring not to be bound by party ties. Mrs. Clark is connected with the Baptist Church as one of its most valued members.

The father and mother of our subject are resting in dreamless repose, but have left behind them monuments far more enduring than even Carrara's far-famed marble has ever furnished. We present to their many friends portraits of those valued pioneers, upon whose living features the eye can no longer rest.

DAVID FILGER, a veteran of the late war, in which he served with honorable distinction, was for many years prominently connected with the business and agricultural interests of Woodford County. But having accumulated a handsome property, he has retired from active business, while yet scarcely past life's prime, and is living at his ease in a beautiful home in Minonk, in which city he established himself when he first came to Illinois to settle in 1861, and where he has ever since resided with the exception of the time when he was serving his country on the southern battle-fields.

The subject of this sketch was born in Worcester, Wayne Co., Ohio, March 2, 1834, to Christopher and Sarah (Westenhaver) Filger, natives of Pennsylvania, of German parentage. His father was a farmer, and also a blacksmith, and he was one of the first settlers of Wayne County, Ohio, where he cleared and improved a farm in the wilderness, making his home on it the remainder of his life, which was prolonged until reaching the age of seventy-four. His wife survived him ten years, dying at about the same age. By a previous marriage he had two children—Jacob and Mary Ann. The former resides in Oregon, and the latter died in 1889 at her home in Summit County, Ohio. The

mother of our subject reared eleven children, all of whom are living, viz.: John is a commission merchant in Chicago; George is a farmer on the old homestead in Ohio; Simon is a cabinet-maker in Santa Fe, N. M.; David, our subject; Susanna is the wife of Henry Geary, of Summit County, Ohio; Lydia is the wife of Harrison Swigard, of Marion, Kan.; Sarah is the wife of the Rev. William Whittinton, of the Evangelical Church, in Ohio; Elizabeth is the wife of Henry Myers, of Ashland, Ohio; Abraham and Isaac are twins, the former living in Missouri and the latter in Colorado; and Henry is a farmer in Wayne County, Ohio.

Our subject spent the early years of his life on the old homestead in Ohio, where he was born. In 1854 he made his first visit to this State, and after stopping about eighteen months at Toniea, he proceeded further westward, and crossing the Mississippi River, went into Iowa to look after some land he had previously purchased. He subsequently returned to Ohio, and remained at home till 1861, when he came back to Illinois, and established himself in Minonk in the lumber business. He was carrying on a very profitable trade, but in 1862 he threw aside all personal interests to enlist in the defense of the Stars and Stripes, and became a member of Company H, 67th Illinois Infantry. For eighteen long months he fought bravely and well, and was accounted by his superiors an efficient soldier. At the expiration of that time he was discharged on account of having received a severe wound that rendered him unfit for service, he having been wounded by a piece of shell in the arm at the hotly contested battle of Arkansas Post. He was with his regiment at the siege of Vicksburg, and he took an active part in other important battles.

Returning to Minonk after his bitter experience of military life, Mr. Filger resumed his interrupted business as a lumber merchant, and also became a grain dealer, and one year later gave up his lumber trade to pay attention to buying and selling grain, and also dealt in live-stock. He was successfully engaged in both branches of business till 1877, when he dropped the grain trade and devoted himself exclusively to his live-stock dealings. In 1887 he retired from business entirely, with the exception of looking after his property and at that time built his present large, comfortable residence. By his own unaided efforts he has become a man of wealth and influence, and although he has met with some reverses in the pursuit of riches, he has accumulated a handsome fortune. Besides his property in Minonk he has three valuable farms, aggregating 400 acres, all well improved.

Mr. Filger was married in the fall of 1863 to Miss Margaret C. Garten. She was born in Putnam County, Ill., near Princeton.

Since his residence here Mr. Filger's fellow-citizens have availed themselves of his well-known fine business qualifications and his capacity for affairs, by inducting him into the leading local offices. He has been Mayor of Minonk, and a member of the Council, and in both positions displayed that disinterested regard for the welfare of the city and the earnest desire to promote its highest interests, that characterizes any man of true public-spirit, and that won for him the gratitude and respect of the people without regard to party, both Republicans and Democrats joining in praise of his administration. He is a Republican in politics, and is in thorough accord with his party on all the great public questions of the day. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in high standing. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a Knight Templar. He is also identified with the G. A. R. at Minonk.

JOSEPH REDIGER, (deceased,) was formerly a prominent and wealthy farmer of Woodford County. He was the proprietor of one of the largest and finest farms in Partridge Township, and his death Feb. 7, 1879, while yet in life's prime, was a severe blow to the agricultural interests of this part of the country. He was the son of a pioneer of the county, one of the earliest settlers of the township just mentioned, and as he had to develop his farm from a wild, uncultivated tract of land, he may be rightly classed

among the worthy pioneers of this county, whose names and memories will ever be held in deep veneration by the present and coming generations.

Joseph Rediger was born in Butler County, Ohio, May 22, 1835, while his father, who bore the same name as himself, was a native of Germany. He came to America when a young man, and after residing in the county where our subject's birth occurred, for a few years, made his way to Illinois with his family, and settled in the wilds of what is now known as Partridge Township, buying a tract of timber land on section 36. Busily engaged in the hard task of clearing away the forest and cultivating his land, he made his home here till death called him hence.

Our subject was but a boy when his parents brought him to this county, and here the remainder of his life was spent. He was bred on his father's farm to agricultural pursuits, affording his father valuable assistance in his labors as soon as he was large enough. At the time of his marriage he left the parental household and established a home of his own on the farm where his family now reside. There was a little log stable on the place and a log cabin, and in the latter humble structure, he and his amiable wife commenced the journey of life together. In the years of hard labor that followed, our subject accomplished as much as many men whose lives are rounded out to a good old age, and when death came to him he had accumulated a large and valuable property. His farm of 500 acres was of exceedingly rich and fertile land, and he had erected a handsome set of frame buildings, and had all the conveniences for carrying on a farm advantageously.

December 28, 1856, was the date of his marriage with Miss Ann Eliza Clingman, who was to him all that an intelligent, faithful, devoted wife could be, and gave him the material aid in the upbuilding of a home. She is now living on a farm with her children, enjoying every comfort and luxury that heart can wish for. She is also a native of Ohio, born April 17, 1833. Her father, John M. Clingman, was born in Northumberland County, Pa. His father, John Clingman, was, as far as known, born in the same State, and was of German parentage or ancestry. He removed from there to Ohio, and was an early settler of that State. He followed agricultural pursuits in both Sciota and Ross counties, and spent his last years in that State. Mrs. Rediger's father was very young when his parents moved to Ohio, and there he was reared and married. In 1835 he started westward to seek a home before the introduction of railways in the West, and the journey was made with ox-teams, and having their household goods along, they cooked and camped by the way. The family located in Woodford County, in that part of it now included in Partridge Township. The father purchased a tract of land there, improved a farm, and remained a resident thereon several years. He then removed to Cazenovia and lived retired till his death. When he came here, deer, wild turkeys, prairie chickens, and other kinds of game were very plenty, and as he had had much experience in hunting in Ohio, he was one of the most expert riflemen of his day, and many a wild animal was brought down by his unerring aim. Mrs. Rediger's mother, Margaret (Levis) Clingman, was born in Northumberland County, Pa. During her pioneer life in this country she had to use the primitive method of cooking before an open fire in a rude fireplace, and the first stove that she had was brought from Chicago with a team.

Mrs. Rediger's married life was blessed to her and her husband by the birth of five children—Almeda (wife of N. C. Ridenour,) John, Lewis D., George T.: Margaret is the wife of William B. Herndon, who assists in operating the home farm and resides with his mother-in-law.

MARTIN O. HAZEN. This gentleman came to Woodford County thirty years ago, and establishing himself in Metamora Township as a farmer, has been closely connected with the agricultural interests of this region ever since. He is a man of clear understanding, good, practical sense, and by judicious management has been prospered in his calling.

Our subject was born in the town of Plymouth, Vt., May 23, 1818. His father, Lyman Hazen, and

his grandfather, Solomon Hazen, were natives of Hartford, Vt., the latter carrying on farming there till his death. The father of our subject was a carder and cloth dresser by trade. His death occurred in Pomfret, Vt., in 1884. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Polly Ingraham, and she was also a native of Vermont. When our subject was very young he had the sad misfortune to lose the loving care of a good mother by her premature death, and then he went to live with some uncles in his native State, by whom he was reared and educated. He early displayed a genius for mechanics, and his relatives encouraging his bent in that direction, he was set to learn the trade of a locksmith. He acquired a thorough mastery of that calling and pursued it in Nashua, and latter in Lowell, Mass., where he built up an extensive business, which he carried on very profitably for some years, till he was obliged to abandon it on account of ill-health, and in 1859 he sought in Illinois a change of climate, and here turned his attention to tilling the soil. He bought 160 acres of land, one-third of which was improved, located in Metamora Township. He lived on that place till 1878, when he sold it at an advance, and invested the proceeds in his present farm, sixty acres of which is included within the city corporation. The location is exceptionally fine, and its nearness to a good market increases its value. The land is under admirable cultivation, and is well improved, with an excellent set of buildings, and every needful appliance for facilitating the work necessary for managing the farm properly.

In November, 1852, the marriage of Mr. Hazen and Miss Martha Searle was duly solemnized, and of their happy union one child has been born, Frank Lynn. Mrs. Hazen is a native of Maine, born in Norridgewock, Nov. 28, 1819. Her father, Samuel Searle, was a native of New Hampshire, the town of Mason his birthplace; his father the Rev. Jonathan Searle, having been pastor of the Congregational Church in that town for many years, his life ending there. Mrs. Hazen's father was reared in Mason, and when nineteen years old he went to Norridgewock, Me., where he engaged in farming several years. He subsequently bought a hotel in Skowhegan, and carried it on for some years. He finally sold it and bought a home near by and was a resident of that town till his demise. The maiden name of his wife was Betsy Wetherell, and she was a native of Maine, and died there while yet a young woman in 1822. Mrs. Hazen was reared by a step-mother, and resided at home till she was grown to womanhood, when she went to live in Lowell, Mass., and later in Lawrence, in that State, and in that city was married. She is a truly good and kind-hearted woman, and a sincere member of the Presbyterian Church.

During his long residence here Mr. Hazen has proved himself in every way worthy of consideration, as he has always conducted himself honorably and in a way to win the respect and friendship of his neighbors. He is sagacious and far-sighted, and tenacious of purpose, and has displayed sound, practical skill in the prosecution of his calling, so that he has achieved an assured success.

GODFRED HARSEIM, dealer in furniture at Secor, Ill., is one of the leading business men of that city, where he has made his home since 1864. From that time until 1879 he engaged in carpentering and building, and being an expert workman, his services were generally in demand. He did a good business in that line, but in 1879 established himself as a furniture dealer, which pursuit he has since followed. He carries a large and well-assorted stock, his prices are as low as anywhere found, and his goods are of the best quality. By his courteous and gentlemanly manner, fair and honest dealing, and earnest desire to please his customers, he has secured a liberal patronage, which he well deserves. He also does repairing, together with everything in that line, and has an undertaking establishment connected with his store.

Mr. Harseim was born in Saxony, Germany, on the 3d day of March, 1833, and in the schools of his native country received his education. In his youth he learned the trade of a carpenter and

cabinet-maker, and when eighteen years of age accompanied the family to America. Bidding good-by to his friends and childhood home, on the 3d day of April, 1851, he left for Bremen, whence he embarked on a sailing vessel for America. The voyage was made in safety, and on the 3d day of July he landed in New Orleans, whence he came up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to New Albany, Ind., where five days later the death of the father occurred. Mrs. Harseim, accompanied by her three sons, then came to Illinois, locating in La Salle County, where she passed to her final rest in 1872.

Our subject followed his trade for some years in LaSalle County, and there married Miss Ellen Bellingbausen, the wedding taking place in Peru. The lady was born on the banks of the Rhine, in Prussia, Aug. 2, 1831, and is a daughter of John Bellinghausen, who crossed the Atlantic to America in 1852. Immediately after his arrival on the shores of this country he continued his journey until reaching Peru, Ill., where he worked at carpentering and cabinet-making for many years His death occurred in 1880, at the ripe old age of seventy-six years. He was three times married, his last wife still surviving him.

Seven children have been born of the union of Godfred Harseim and Ellen Bellinghausen, but only two are now living; Matilda, who is the wife of William Zink, a resident farmer of Greene Township, by whom she has eight children, seven sons and a daughter; and Mary, wife of John Becker, who resides in El Paso. Mr. Becker is a farmer by occupation, and his wife is a seamstress. They have three children. The deceased members of the family are August, Godfred, Ellen, Lenora and John W.

After residing for some years in La Salle County, Mr. Harseim removed with his family to Chicago, and started in business, remaining in that city for a period of about ten years. In the year 1864 he came to Secor and engaged in business, as elsewhere stated. In connection with his other interests, for the past twelve years he has given considerable attention to the raising of bees, and now has over 300 colonies. Few men have been more prominently identified with the history and progress of Secor than Godfred Harseim. He manifests a deep interest in all its public affairs, is ever ready to aid in the promotion of any enterprise for the general welfare, and has liberally responded to all calls made upon him for social, educational or moral interests. He and his wife are active members of the German Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he now holds the office of Trustee and Steward, and is Vice-president of the County Sunday-school Convention. In political sentiment, he is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party, and for a number of terms has been city alderman.

WILKE C. HOGELUCHT, one of the extensive land-owners of Woodford County, and a prominent and progressive farmer, residing on section 18, Greene Township, is numbered among the early settlers of the county, where he has made his home since 1855. He commands and receives the respect of his fellow-citizens, who esteem him highly for his standard worth and intelligence as well as his genial and kindly nature. He was born in Oest, Friesland, in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, on the 5th day of October, 1830, and is a son of a German farmer, Karl Wilke Hogelucht, who afterwards came to this country. His mother's maiden name was Taetiey A. Radenius, and she, like her husband, was a native of Oest, Friesland. She died when our subject was eighteen years old, he being the only child of the family left to mourn the loss of a mother by death. Mr. Hogelucht was a second time married, and had five children by that union who are now living in America, principally in the Central States. When about fifty-eight years of age he left his native land and crossed the water to make his home with his son. He died on a farm in Livingston County, Illinois, in 1869, at the age of sixty-five years, respected by all who knew him.

Our subject spent the days of his boyhood and youth in his native country and was reared to manhood upon his father's farm. He received his primary education in the German "Allgemein

Sehule," and afterwards pursued a eourse in a higher school. On attaining his majority he determined to try his fortune in the New World, but for some time was prevented from earrying out his resolution, being detained as "reserve" in the king's serviee for three years. However, in 1854, he bade good-by to home and friends, and on the 8th day of September, embarked from Broke in the sailing vessel "O. Teen." One month later the ship dropped anchor in the harbor at New Orleans, whenee Mr. Hogelueht proeeeded up the Mississippi River to Quiney, and from that eity traveled overland to Peoria, where he arrived Jan. 10, 1855. He had no eapital with whieh to begin life in his new home but was dependent upon his own resourees. In a short time he had seeured work as a farm laborer and eontinued to serve in that eapacity for some time, though in 1856 he purehased land in this eounty. He was able to read and speak the English language on his arrival in Ameriea, and it was thus less diffieult for him to obtain employment. His life has been one of industry and toil, and being sagaeious and possessed of good business ability, he has been sueeessful in his efforts to make a home.

In 1861 Mr. Hogelueht was united in marriage with Mrs. Gertie (Johnson) Rodenius, daughter of John Johnson, and a native of Oest, Friesland. At the time of her marriage with our subjeet she was the widow of Harm Rodenius, aud had a family of four ehildren, who remained with their mother until they were married and went to homes of their own. Helen, the eldest, is now the wife of H. Layman, a resident of Greene Township, by whom she has seven children: John, who married Rexta Falcus, and now has a family of four ehildren, is a farmer of Roanoke Township; Hannah beeame the wife of Albert Sotthoff, a resident farmer of Kansas, and they have six ehildren; Harm, residing in Greene Township, married Wilmke Flor, and five ehildren graee their union.

The same year in whieh he wedded Mrs. Rodenius, Mr. Hogelueht purehased 125 aeres of land on section 18, whieh eonstituted the nueleus of his present large farm. Sinee that time he has added to his possessions until he now owns 300 aeres, 285 of whieh is arable land, the remaining fifteen being a timber traet in Roanoke Township. His property has all been seeured sinee he eame to this eountry, and is the result of his industry, perseveranee, good management and fair dealing. He has made good improvements upon his land, has divided his his farm into fields of convenient size by well-kept fenees, has built a large and eommodious baru and has ereeted a neat frame dwelling. He has endured the trials and hardships incident to life on the frontier and has borne his part in the work of upbuilding and progress. In 1860 he beeame a naturalized eitizen, sinee which time he has been a staneh Demoerat in polities. He manifests a deep interest in all the affairs of the eountry, is a great reader, and is well informed on all the leading questions of the day, both State and National. For many years he has been a member of the German Lutheran Chureh of Linn Township, and is a faithful and eonsistent Christian, who performs eheerfully every duty by whieh he ean promote the Master's eause. Mr. Hogelueht is generous and benevolent, warm-hearted and sineere, and possesses a vein of humor in his nature whieh makes him an interesting and pleasant eompanion. He has won a host of friends throughout the eounty where he is so widely known.

We invite the attention of our numerous readers to a handsome lithographic view of the farm, residenee and eommodious out-buildings of Mr. Hogelueht, on another page of this volume.

WILLIAM H. GROVE. It is a blessing whieh eomes not to all, to have a father of whom his children may be proud, and with just pride speak of him as a model by which they may shape their own lives. It is a matter of pride with William H. Grove, that he is the son of a man who wields such an influenee with his fellow men. Although he is a young man, he already bids fair to beeome a fit suecessor to his father in all his relations of life.

William H. Grove is the son of Benjamin Grove, whose biography is given in connection with that

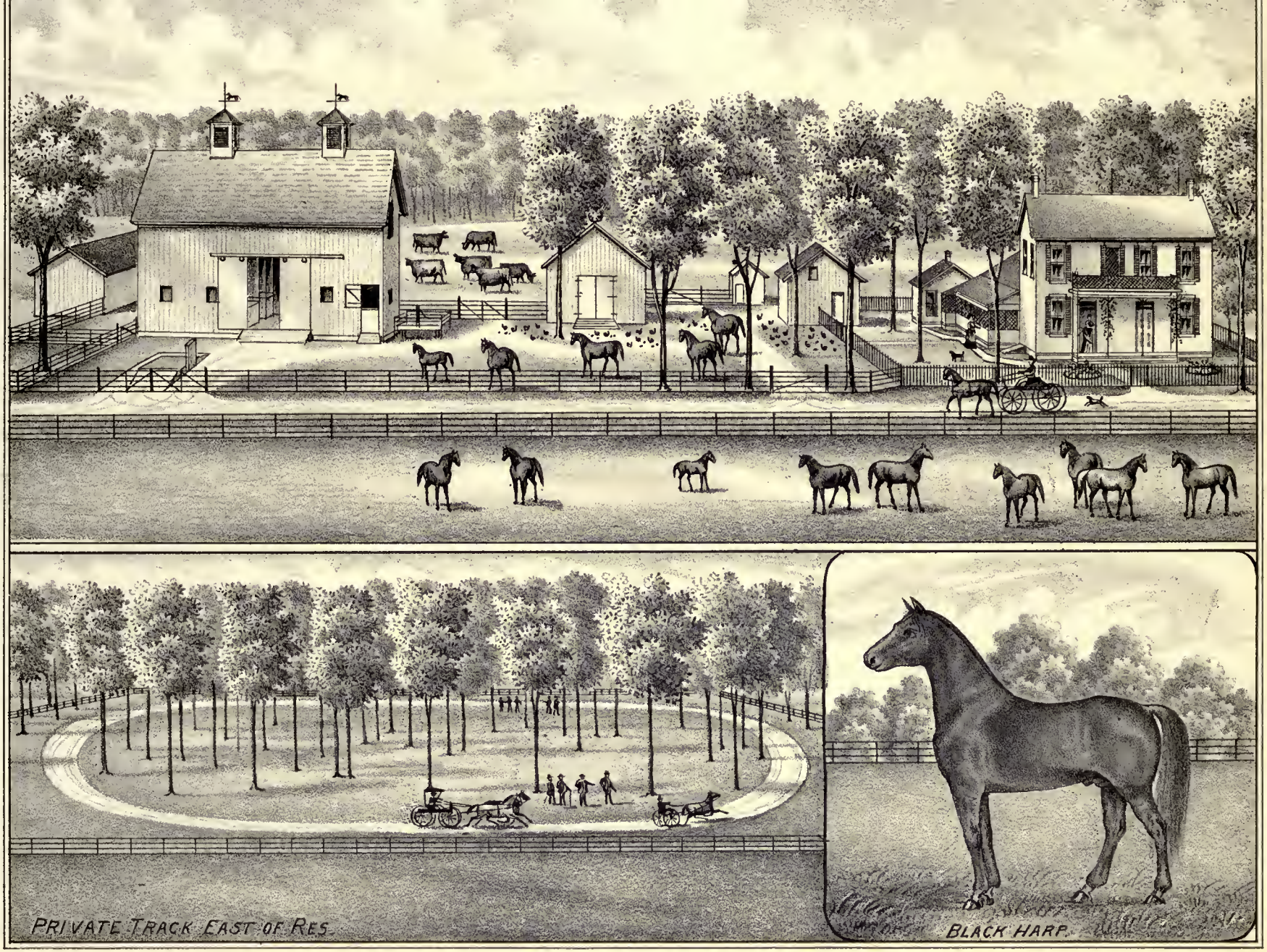
of his son. He resides on section 25, and conducts the farm of his father with marked success. He received a good common school education, and thus was excellently prepared for his life work.

Mr. William Grove was especially fortunate in the selection of a life partner, his wife being Miss Mary Ann Lindenfelser, a native of Tazewell County, Ill. She is of German ancestry, her parents having emigrated to America from their old home in Baden. To them have been born two children. Mr. and Mrs. Grove are held in high esteem among all the people who have the pleasure of their acquaintance, and are welcomed in the best circles of society.

JOHN F. VAN FOSSEN. It is said that every man has his hobby, and were it not for this quality of character many ideas and pursuits would remain practically undeveloped. We can scarcely call to mind any more important calling or profession than the breeding and training of horses, that animal upon which so many industries depend, and which practically is the only source of income for a vast number of people—aside from his strength, beauty and symmetry, which are so pleasant to the eye, and which is utilized as a great source of pleasure to the human race. In this as in all other pursuits there are men who seem particularly adapted to it, and who have the proper view of its importance, making of it an art and a science, and in order to make of it a success they must have for it a genuine love and a pride in it.

As a breeder of fine horses Mr. Van Fossen stands probably second to no man in Woodford County, and his efforts in this direction have gained him an enviable reputation. Up to 1881 he had since early manhood been engaged in general agriculture, although always interested in the equine race, but this year he turned his attention particularly to the breeding of fine horses, and it has been his pride and pleasure to become owner of some very valuable animals. Among these is the Royal Kentucky-bred coach stallion known as "Black Harp," and acknowledged to approach as near perfection in his line as is to be seen. He has been driven a mile in 2:40 without any jockey training, flying over the ground without any effort, and apparently delighting in the exercise. This beautiful animal stands seventeen hands high and weighs 1,400 pounds, while his value is away up in the thousands. His companions of the stable are all blooded animals, and the source of a handsome income to their owner. Mr. Van Fossen has a private track and every other convenience for the development of the best points in horse flesh, training not only his own property but horses belonging to other parties.

Our subject was born in Licking County, Ohio, Feb. 5, 1834. His father, William Van Fossen, was a native of Virginia, and married Miss Mary Fishburn, also born and reared in the Old Dominion. They emigrated to Illinois, locating in Woodford County early in the forties, and spent most of their days thereafter in Olio Township. The mother departed this life in February, 1887. The father is still living, making his home with Mr. Van Fossen. John F. was a youth of eighteen years when coming to this county, of which he has since been a resident. In 1840 he formed the acquaintance of Miss Millie A. Foster, to whom he was married in Licking County, Ohio, Sept. 15, 1849. This lady is the daughter of Willis and Nancy Foster, who were natives of Virginia, and emigrated to Licking County, Ohio, at an early day. Mrs. Van Fossen was born in the latter county Oct. 3, 1840. Our subject and his wife have no children. Both are members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Van Fossen, politically, gives his support to the Democratic party. His farming operations have engrossed the greater part of his time and attention, and aside from holding the office of Highway Commissioner, he has had very little part in public affairs. His farm comprises 256 acres of choice land, and upon it have been erected first-class buildings, which with their surroundings form a very attractive and desirable home. Each year adds something to the beauty and value of the premises. The farm is the source of a handsome income, and Mr. Van Fossen like-



RESIDENCE OF JOHN F. VANFOSSEN. SEC. 28. OLIO TOWNSHIP.

wise realizes generously from his operations as a breeder of fine horses. He has built up for himself an enviable reputation in this line, and has reason to look upon the result of his efforts with pride and satisfaction.

An elegant lithographic engraving of Mr. Van Fossen's home appears elsewhere in this volume.

JOHN W. TOMB. By birth a native of Ohio, this gentleman was reared in Illinois, and since attaining manhood has been associated with the most wide-awake and enlightened agriculturists of Woodford County. Since he was brought here an infant he has always made his home in Metamora Township, although he has traveled quite extensively elsewhere, and he is the owner of one of its most valuable farms, comprising 320 acres of highly improved land, with a commodious residence on the southeast quarter of section 25.

Our subject was born in the year 1849 in Brown County, Ohio. His father, Matthew Tomb, was a native of County Derry, Ireland, and was the son of Andrew and Jane (Wiley) Tomb (see sketch of Andrew Tomb, Sr.) He was reared in his native county and early learned the baker's trade. When he was a young man he came to America, and worked at his trade in New York City for a time. He then went to Brown County, Ohio, where he married, and purchased a farm on which to make a home. But the title proved defective and he lost all that he had put into it. In 1849 he started for Illinois with a wagon drawn by three horses, accompanied by his wife and three children, and bringing along the household goods so that the little family cooked and camped by the way in the heat of the day, or when night overtook them. When they arrived in Tazewell County, Mr. Tomb's entire outfit consisted of his team, his household goods and twenty-five cents in cash. He traded his team for a tract of land, comprising eighty acres of grub land. There was no house on the place, and he rented a log cabin for a temporary shelter, and then began to work by the day to earn money to support his family, receiving thirty cents and one meal a day for his labor. He was a very hard-working man and used to employ all his spare time clearing his own land, and finally built a log cabin on it, chinking it with mud. He was a resident there till 1854 or 1855, when he traded his farm for a tract of wild prairie land in Metamora Township. There were no buildings on it, and he erected a temporary habitation for his family by placing forked stakes in the ground, and extending a pole from one to the other, and with boards standing on end, the top reaching against the pole. He and his wife and children lived in that rude dwelling from March till the following May, when he had completed a small frame house, into which they removed. He sold half of his land at $12 an acre to raise money to improve the remainder. Being a man of extraordinary industry, and possessed of good judgment he was successful in his farming operations, and came to be numbered among the men of wealth in the township, owning at the time of his death 461 acres of fine land, besides a house and five lots in the city of Eureka. His death occurred March 21, 1888, and his memory is now cherished as that of a pioneer of the county, who did his best to promote its interests and prosperity. He was a man of true Christian principles, and although reared in the Episcopal Church, his wife being a member of the Presbyterian Church, he usually worshiped with her at that shrine. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Tomb, and she was born in Louisville, Ky., a daughter of Matthew Tomb, a native of County Derry, Ireland. She died in the month of November, 1873. Two of her children survive, our subject and his brother Andrew, who holds a Government position as store keeper in the bonded warehouse at Pekin, but has his residence in Eureka.

As before related, the subject of this sketch was reared in Metamora Township, having been brought here when an infant, and he gleaned a sound education in the local public schools. He commenced to assist his father in the farm work when he was but eleven years old. He has traveled since quite

extensively, but has always made his home here. He pays strict attention to agricultural pursuits, and has met with more than ordinary success in the prosecution of his favorite calling, having acquired quite a large landed estate, and built up a very desirable home. He has erected a fine set of frame buildings, and has all the conveniences for carrying on agriculture profitably.

Mr. Tomb was married in the month of March, 1875, to Miss Lydia Crow, who has made him an excellent wife, and has cordially seconded him in all his work. She was born sixteen miles east of Wheeling, West Va., and is the daughter of Abraham and Mary Crow. The attractive home of our subject and his wife is blessed by the two children that have been born to them, Lavinia Aurella and Charles Nelson.

Mr. Tomb is in every sense a live, wide-awake man, with quick, keen intelligence, and a good insight into the best methods of conducting agriculture to the best advantage. He and his wife are people of high standing in this community, and their generous hospitality and genial traits of character have secured them hosts of friends.

SAMUEL STUMBAUGH an old settler and a well-to-do farmer, late of Montgomery Township, departed this life at his home, Jan. 18, 1880. He was born in Columbus, Pa., March 25, 1812, of German ancestry, being the son of Frederick and Eva (Baker) Stumbaugh, the former a Pennsylvania farmer. They were industrious, economical people, and succeeded in securing a fair living in Pennsylvania, but when our subject, who was the youngest of their children, was about six months old, they turned their faces Westward, and with all their children, settled near Columbus, Ohio, in the latter part of the year 1812. Neighbors were scarce in those days, and the land which they purchased was wholly unimproved, but by never ceasing toil they made it a pleasant, comfortable and convenient home. They were good people, and kind, obliging neighbors, and were quite aged when their death occurred on the farm they had originally purchased. Their last days were soothed by the consolations of religion, they being worthy members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject grew to manhood on the parental farm, and obtained a fair common school education and a thorough training in agricultural pursuits. In 1832 at the age of twenty years he was presented with a horse, bridled and saddled, and in company with some friends, made a journey to Illinois, riding horseback all the way. They stopped for a short time in Tazewell County then pursued their journey to Peoria, where our subject remained two years, then returned to his home in Ohio, but again in 1838, started back to Peoria. When he arrived in that place, then only a small village, he purchased a piece of land in what is now the best part of the city on Main Street. He bought it for a nominal sum and selling it in 1846 at a good profit, invested the proceeds in eighty acres of land in the Township of Morton, Tazewell County. When he secured this land it was not improved, but care and cultivation soon made it a pleasant home, where he resided with his family several years. In the meantime he increased the size of the estate, until he had doubled the original purchase. In 1855 he bought 160 acres of partially improved land, on section 1, Montgomery Township, Woodford County, removing there in 1857. He gave his Tazewell County farm to the two children of his first wife, Levi, and Sarah E. After locating in Montgomery Township, he began operating largely as a stock dealer and farmer, which proved a fortunate venture for him, as he claimed that his large fortune was accumulated thereby. It was no idle boast of his to speak of his fortune being large, for at the time of his decease he was the owner of more than 1300 acres, nearly all highly improved, well stocked with fine cattle, superior horses and other first class animals, and supplied with plenty of good water, and large, convenient farm buildings, beside fruit and shade trees, etc. The family residence is a comfortable, convenient and commodious dwelling, and is situated in the midst of well kept lawns and gardens. The readers of this volume will gain a clear impression of the neat appearance and pleasant surroundings of this

rural home, by the engraving which is presented on another page.

Mr. Stumbaugh was a man of energy and enterprise, and enjoyed a first-class reputation as a business man. Socially, he was an agreeable companion, generous, charitable and upright. He adhered to the principles of the Democratic party, but never accepted office, preferring the quiet of domestic life, unruffled by public cares. In 1840 Mr. Stumbaugh took an important step in life by his marriage with Miss Mary A. Bareus, a native of Ohio, where she was also reared and married. Her parents were natives of Maryland. She and her husband were married in Columbus and took their wedding trip to his farm in Morton Township, Tazewell County, Ill., coming overland in a wagon. Mrs. Stumbaugh was a good woman, a kind neighbor and an affectionate wife and mother, and her death at the birth of her fourth child was a grievous blow to her husband, who was thus left with two little children to be cared for, two others having preceded their mother to the unknown world.

Mr. Stumbaugh was married a second time in Morton Township, Tazewell County, to Mrs. Mary J. Merriek, *nee* Baucher, who came to Illinois in the early days. She was first united in marriage with Dr. Charles Merriek, by whose death in Tazewell County she was left a childless widow. She made her home in that county until her death, which occurred in 1854, leaving to her second husband, Mr. Stumbaugh, one child, Mary E. The little one's advent cost its mother her life, but although deprived of maternal love and care, she grew up a charming young woman, and is now Mrs. William Phillips, of Dodge County, Neb.

Our subject was married the third time in Montgomery Township, July 7, 1857, to Miss Nancy J. McPeak, a native of Tazewell County, Ill., where she was born in Fremont Township, Dec. 29, 1835. Mrs. Stumbaugh is a daughter of Jonathan and Delila (Sparrow) McPeak, the former a native of Montgomery, Va., and the latter of Kentucky. Mr. McPeak when a young man of eighteen years, came to Illinois with a drove of sheep and remained in Tazewell County, making his home with a sister, Elizabeth Hodgens. In a couple of years he had sufficient money saved to purchase a farm of 120 acres, which he at once commenced operating and had brought it under good cultivation at the time of his marriage. Miss Delila Sparrow was a child of twelve years when her parents removed from Kentucky in 1825 and located in Tazewell County, being among the first settlers of the place. After marriage, Jonathan McPeak and wife began life on his farm, which, except for the improvements he had previously made, was a region of unbroken prairie. Sometime after the birth of their youngest child in Tazewell County, Mr. McPeak and family removed to Montgomery Township, this county, where he purchased a farm on which he resided until near the close of his useful and active life, his death occurring in Eureka, March 11, 1887, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Stumbaugh. He was born April 25, 1812, and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life, in the pursuit of which he found both pleasure and profit. He accumulated a good property in this State, but he afterwards sold it and purchased for each one of his children a large farm in Bates County, Mo. He was an honest, upright man, a good neighbor and a member of the Christian Church, where his wife and all his children found their religious home. Mrs. McPeak bade farewell to the cares of this life in Olio Township, Jan. 26, 1870, leaving behind her a good name, which the good Book assures us, is better than great riches. She was the mother of nine children; the deceased are: Minerva, Fleming, Elias E., Amos, and Levi, who died in childhood or youth. The surviving members of the family are: Mrs. Stumbaugh, James G., Louisa A., and James L. James G., an attorney at Foster, Mo., married Miss Fanny West. His education was commenced in the Eureka schools and completed in Chicago, Ill.; Louisa A. is the wife of William Ramsey, and resides in Bates County, Mo., on a good farm; James L. is married, and lives in Bates County, Mo. His wife's maiden name was Mary Smith.

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Stumbaugh has resided on a portion of his homestead, which she now owns and operates. She also owns a good property of five acres within the city limits of Eureka, besides other real estate in the city. She became the mother of two children: Delila was

the wife of J. W. Harber, and died leaving one child, Mabelle. Mr. Harber has a large agricultural implement manufactory in Bloomington, Ill. The other child of Mrs. Stumbaugh, is a daughter, Isabelle, who is the wife of L. W. Myers, a stock and horse breeder of Eureka. Mrs. Stumbaugh is an amiable and intelligent lady, an agreeable companion and a worthy leader in all good works.

JOSEPH SCHROCK, a well-to-do and successful farmer and stock-raiser of Montgomery Township, is located on section 22. The village of Congerville, which was begun in the spring of 1888, is situated on a portion of his farm. He owns about 320 acres of land, which is divided into two farms. Some of this land was bought in 1864, in which year he first came to this county, buying wild land and improving it with fences, trees, buildings, etc., and as fortune smiled upon him, purchasing more land, which he also improved until he is now very comfortably situated. Before coming to Montgomery Township, he resided some seven years in Roanoke Township, which was the second place in which he had located after coming to the State of Illinois in 1850. He was a native of France, and on coming to America, resided for a time in Pennsylvania, then moved to Ohio, and in 1850 reached Illinois, in which State he remained.

Our subject was born March 17, 1828, in the Province of Lorraine, which at that time belonged to France, but has since been ceded to Germany. His father, John Schrock, a native of Lorraine, was of German ancestry, but was educated in French, which he spoke like a native. He was wedded to a lady of Lorraine, Miss Catherine Saltsman, and when the couple were the parents of two children, Joseph and his sister Catherine, they came to America in 1841, leaving the port of Havre in the spring. The passage across the boisterous Atlantic consumed forty-four days. They at length disembarked in Baltimore, Md., very much fatigued from the hardships they had endured during the long journey. From there they went to Lancaster, Pa., and a year later, in 1832, removed to Ohio, and located on a farm, which the father operated, and in connection with it rented a mill, which he managed very successfully, it being the business in which he was most proficient. While living in Butler County, Ohio, the family was increased by the addition of three children, namely: John, Peter and Magdalena, who were bright and intelligent, and their mature years have not disappointed the fond expectations, which their parents conceived of the little French-Americans. In the autumn of 1850, Mr. Shrock and his family removed to Tazewell County, Ill., and located near Pekin, taking up wild land, but subduing it by patient industry until at their decease they were surrounded by numbers of broad acres well cultivated and supporting numerous fine domestic animals. During life they were members of the Old Omish Church, and died in that communion. The father entered into his rest in his seventy-fourth year and the mother in her fifty-seventh.

Our subject was the eldest of the five children born to his parents. They are all living and married and residents of Illinois. Our subject was reared in Butler County, Ohio, and attended the common schools of the district through the winter, and in the summer assisted on the farm and in the mill, thus acquiring a practical knowledge of agricultural matters, and getting a good insight into business transactions while an employe in his father's mill. He was of legal age, but unmarried, when he came to this State. While a resident of Tazewell County, he was united in marriage with the lady of his choice, Miss Magdalena Guingrich, a country-woman of his, she having been born in Lorraine in 1830, and was a daughter of Joseph and Magdalena (Gadder) Guingrich, also natives of Lorraine. The parents of Mrs. Schrock were married in their native country and resided there until their family was increased to six children. About that time they concluded they could do better in the United States, and especially secure a better place for their children to grow up and prosper in, so in 1830 they embarked at Havre and after a prosperous voyage landed in New York City. They went directly West as far as Ohio, where they re-

sided on a farm for a number of years. About the year 1837 they once more gathered up their worldly effects and following the setting sun at length settled in Farnisville, Woodford County. They purchased land on the Mackinaw River and industriously set to work to make a comfortable home, but the unavoidable hardships incident to a pioneer life, proved too much for Mrs. Guingrich, and she quietly fell asleep and was laid to rest far away from her childhood's home. She was a good Christian woman and in the prime of life, but was unable to longer endure the trials which befell the brave pioneers.

In 1848 Mr. Guingrich went to Oregon Territory, following the overland route, crossing the plains and mountains, he at length reached his destination and took up a claim, which he soon afterward relinquished and removed to Stockton, Cal., where he engaged as a carrier of goods across the mountains. After following this occupation for some time he returned in 1851 to Illinois, coming via water and land. Shortly after his arrival in Tazewell County he purchased a farm, erected a dwelling, and made other improvements, and resided there with his family until his children were all married. He then ceased active work on his farm and made his home with one of his children in McLean County, until death removed him finally from life's activities in 1875. He was then seventy-two years old and died as he had lived, a consistent member of the old Mennonite Church.

Mrs. Schrock is the second child of her parents, but losing her mother when still youthful, her education and training devolved upon her father, with whom she made her home the greater part of her time until marriage. Since her marriage to Mr. Schrock she has become the mother of nine children, all except one of whom are still living:—Lyda was the wife of Samuel Roth, and died when twenty-six years old, leaving one child; John married Miss Rosa Witmer, and resides in Iowa, on a farm near Elgin; Catherine is the wife of John Zimmerman, a farmer in Kansas Township, this County; Joseph married Miss Minnie Iron and lives on a farm in Montgomery Township; Jonathan is yet at home; Mary is the wife of Nathan Goodeman, a farmer of Roanoke Township; Magdalena is the wife of John Suter, and resides on a farm in this township; David resides in Nemeha County, Kan.; Susan is at home. Mr. and Mrs. Schrock are good, intelligent German people, industrious, thrifty and provident, and although not mingling in political matters, yet make excellent citizens, and are worthy members of the New Omish Church.

MATTHEW CRAWFORD, deceased, was an honored pioneer of Woodford County. He was actively interested in the development of the agricultural resources of Cazenovia Township, and was a factor in otherwise promoting its material welfare. Here he reclaimed and improved a valuable farm, and established one of the coziest of homes, attractive, and replete with all the modern comforts and conveniences that make life worth living. His widow, with their son, now occupies the homestead. She is possessed of those characteristics that mark a good and true woman, and is held in high regard for her many excellent qualities of head and heart.

Mr. Crawford was born in County Galway, Ireland, in the year 1828, a son of John and Ellen Crawford. He was a child of but five or six years when he came to America with his father and stepmother. The family resided in Chicago for a time when that city was nothing more than a village, with no indications of its present size and importance as the second city in the Union. Later, they moved to Ottawa, where the father became a subcontractor in the construction of the Illinois Canal. After the death of the father, our subject came to Woodford County and commenced life for himself by working on a farm by the month, till his marriage. He then went to live on the Garrison homestead that his wife's father had reclaimed from the wild prairies. Three years and a half later he located on the farm which remained his home the rest of his life, and which is still occupied by his widow and son. At the time of his purchase it was a tract of wild land, with not a furrow turned or any habitation upon it. But by the quiet force of

persistent and wisely directed labor he transformed it into a beautiful and highly productive farm, placing the land under fine cultivation, erecting good, substantial, roomy buildings, and living here surrounded by all the comforts of an Eastern home till his earthly career was cut short by his lamented death Sept. 5, 1888. Thus passed from the scene of his labors a truly good man, one whose life was guided by sound principles, and when it was rounded out he left a high reputation as a man of honor, truthfulness and unimpeached integrity. He was a man of clear understanding, good capacity, and a diligent toiler, knowing well how to carry on his work to good advantage, and by fair methods accumulating a comfortable property.

A record of Mr. Crawford's life would be incomplete without more extended reference to the faithful and true hearted woman who was so much to him, and to whom he was partly indebted for his success. Mrs. Crawford's maiden name was Margaret J. Garrison, and she was born in Greene County, Pa., March 1, 1829. Her father, George Garrison, was born in the same county, and was a son of Jacob and Margaret (Six) Garrison, natives of Germany, who came to America and spent their last years in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Crawford's father grew to a stalwart manhood in his native county, married and continued to live there till 1835. In that year he came to Illinois with his family, the removal being made with teams as there were no railways in this part of the country then, and they took their household goods with them, and cooked and camped by the way. Mr. Garrison became a pioneer of Woodford County, which then formed a part of Tazewell County, and was an early settler of Cazenovia Township. In those early days the settlements were confined to the timber, the people thinking it would be impossible to live on the open prairie, which was left for the home of the deer, wolves and other wild game, which continued to be plentiful for several years. The land had been opened for settlement by the Government, and was for sale at $1.25 an acre. Mr. Garrison entered a tract of land in Cazenovia Township, and at once commenced the improvement of a farm. He remained a resident here till his death Aug. 10, 1851, when the township lost one of its most trustworthy citizens. He was also the leader in establishing the first frame school house in Cazenovia Township. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Buckingham, and she was likewise a native of Greene County, Pa. (For the history of her parents, Isaac and Sarah (Jones) Buckingham, see sketch of Morgan Buckingham). She survived her husband only a few weeks, dying on the homestead Sept. 3, 1851. They were the parents of six children, namely: Margaret J. (Mrs. Crawford), Sarah, Isaac B., Hannah F., Jacob, and George. Mrs. Crawford was but six years old when her parents brought her to this county, so it may well be said that she grew up with the county, the most of whose development she has witnessed. She attended the pioneer schools, and was carefully trained by her good mother in all the household duties so that she became in time an accomplished housewife, fully capable of taking charge of a home of her own. She was taught to spin and weave, and aided her mother in the manufacture of all the cloth used for making clothes by the family. She remained an inmate of the parental household till the death of her father and mother. Her marriage with Mr. Crawford was blessed to them by the birth of three children, Mary E., Charles Oscar, and George A. Mary is the wife of Osear Shugart, of whom see sketch on another page of this volume. George A., a capable, wide-awake young man, is managing the home farm with marked success. He married Clara M. Hoffrichter Oct. 22, 1888.

BELA M. STODDARD, an influential, prosperous and leading business man of Minonk, holds high rank among the substantial and representative citizens of Woodford County. He is a native of the Empire State, born in Chautauqua County, Sept. 10, 1840, being a son of Simeon A., and Nancy M. (Merrill) Stoddard, natives respectively of Connecticut and Maine.

His father was a farmer by occupation, and when a young man, left his native State, and going into the adjacent State of New York, met and married

in Wayne County, the mother of our subject. He afterward settled in Chautauqua County, whence, in 1857, he came to Illinois, and settling in McLean County, bought 160 acres of land in Cropsey Township. He was among the earliest settlers in that place, and the first election in the township was held in his house, a sugar bowl, into which sixteen or seventeen votes were cast, being used as a receptacle for the ballots. Mr. Stoddard remained in Cropsey until 1875, when he removed with his family to Chatsworth, where the death of his wife occurred in 1882. She bore her husband eleven children, eight of whom grew to maturity, the following being their record: Nathaniel is a farrier in Rockville, Mo.; Charlotte married Nelson Brigham, of Chicago; George lives in Trinidad, Colo.; Mahala is the wife of Alonzo Straight, of Chatsworth; Julia, who married D. S. Thomas, subsequently died in Carthage, Mo.; B. M.; Simeon Avery, who enlisted in the 129th Illinois Infantry, was killed at the battle of Peach Tree Creek; Nancy is the wife of John T. Wickersham, of Clinton, Mo. Mr. Stoddard is yet living on his homestead in Chatsworth, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, revered and respected by all. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Bela, of whom we write, was reared on his father's farm, and received a common-school education, afterward supplementing it by study and reading, until he acquired a substantial business education. When seventeen years of age, he came with the family to Cropsey, remaining at home until after the breaking out of the late Civil War, when, in 1862, he enlisted for three months in Company K, 7th Illinois Infantry. At the end of the term of enlistment, our subject returned home and resumed farming until 1865, when he came to Minonk, and, in company with D. S. Thomas, opened a store of general merchandise. The following year the firm was changed to Stoddard & Newton, and to their other business they added that of dealing in grain, gradually increasing it, and continued thus until 1876, when the firm dissolved, Mr. Newton taking the business of the store, and our subject taking charge of the grain trade. Mr. Stoddard carries on an extensive business, having two elevators in Minonk, and one at Stoddard's Siding, near Chatsworth, and was for sometime interested in the Minonk flouring-mills. He has accumulated all of his property since living here, and has invested largely in real estate, owning about 4,000 acres of some of the most valuable land in Woodford and Livingston counties. In 1868 Mr. Stoddard was united in marriage, to Miss Sarah Bell, daughter of Reuben P. Bell. For further parental history, see sketch of R. P. Bell on another page of this volume.

To our subject and his wife have been born four children—Reuben B., Bertel M., Zadel M., and Melite E. Though our subject pays but little attention to politics, his sympathies are with the Prohibition party. He never seeks office, preferring to give his time and attention to his business, although some years ago he served in many of the local offices. Mr. Stoddard is a man of high character, unblemished reputation, and is considered perfectly honorable in every regard, being held in universal esteem. He has a pleasant home, beautifully furnished, over which his amiable wife presides most gracefully, and where their numerous friends are ever hospitably welcomed.

JOSHUA F. WHEELWRIGHT, Postmaster at Roanoke, engaged as a druggist here, is one of the foremost business men of the place. He is derived from an old New England family, and is a lineal descendant of the Rev. John Wheelwright, a native of England, who came to America in the early settlement of the colonies, and secured the title to a large tract of land in New England. That celebrated divine was the founder of the town of Exeter. Joseph Wheelwright, one of his descendants, great-grandfather of our subject, was born on the old colonial homestead in Wells, York Co., Me., and there his son Aaron, grandfather of our subject, and his grandson James, father of our subject, were born and reared. The two first spent their entire lives in their birthplace, peacefully engaging in agricultural pursuits. The old homestead is still in possession of the family.

Moses F. and Aaron Wheelwright own the place, and Moses F. occupies it. The father of our subject was reared and married in the home of his birth, and always engaged in farming. He and his brother built a sawmill there, which they operated together for many years. His death occurred on the old homestead, Jan. 25, 1841, and a most worthy man, a good citizen, and an exemplary husband and father was removed from the scenes of his labors, leaving as a heritage to his children and children's children the legacy of a life well spent. His wife likewise closed her eyes in death on the spot where her entire wedded life had been passed, dying in 1859. Her maiden name was Achsah Furbish, and she was also a native of Wells, Me., a daughter of Moses and Sally Furbish. She was the mother of four children—Aaron, Rebecca, Moses F. and Joshua F., who hold her memory in respect and reverence.

Our subject was born in the home that had sheltered his ancestors for so many generations in the pretty and quaint old town of Wells, by the sea in Maine, April 27, 1830. He remained an inmate of the parental household till 1856, gleaning in the meantime a substantial education, he being a thoughtful, studious lad, with a craving for book learning, inherited doubtless from his clerical ancestor aforementioned. He attended the excellent academy at Thetford, Vt., a year, and was still further equipped for the teacher's profession, which he had entered at the youthful age of seventeen. After that he engaged in teaching in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts till 1856, and then, well fortified with experience, he came to Illinois, and his services as a teacher were gladly accepted at Pana, in Christian County, where he taught a year, and was then similarly employed at Mattoon, in Coles County, for six months, whence he came to Woodford County, and taught in Washburn a year. In 1859 he returned to his old home in Maine, and was employed at his profession, and also in farming the ensuing five years. After that he came back to Illinois during the war, and located at Minonk, teaching there one term, and then taking charge of the post-office at that point for some years. In 1873 he came to Roanoke, and established himself in the drug business, which he has continued very successfully ever since. In September, 1873, he was appointed Postmaster, and held the office till 1885, when he was removed on account of offensive partizanship, as he had preferred to lose his position rather than remain silent regarding his political sentiments, and not use his influence for the party that he believed to be in the right. In April, 1889, to the general satisfaction of all concerned, he was re-instated as Postmaster of Roanoke, and is managing the affairs of the office impartially and in the best possible manner.

Mr. Wheelwright was married in 1874 to Miss Maria T. Thompson, a native of Locust Ridge, Ohio. Their happy household circle is completed by the presence of the two children born of their marriage, Eddie Newton and Ivy Gertrude. Mrs. Wheelwright's father, Isaac Thompson, was born in Greenbriar County, Va., in 1805, and his father, William Thompson, is supposed to have been a native of the same State. In 1822, the latter, accompanied by his family, emigrated to Ohio, and casting his lot with the pioneers of Brown County, he purchased land there and engaged in farming till his death. Mrs. Wheelwright's father was seventeen years old when the family removed to Ohio, and he bought a tract of wild land at Locust Ridge, equi-distant between Bethel and Williamsburg. He continued to engage actively in agricultural pursuits till his death. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Earhart, and she was a native of Lancaster County, Pa., and a daughter of John and Martha Earhart. She died on the home farm at Locust Ridge. Mrs. Wheelwright was carefully trained by her parents, and was given the advantage of a good education, attending first the public schools of Brown County, and then advancing by attendance at a select school in Clermont County. She was thus well qualified for the teacher's profession, which she entered at the age of twenty-one, and was thus engaged in Brown and Clermont counties, Ohio, till her marriage with Mr. Wheelwright. She is a woman of innate refinement, and an earnest Christian, being a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Wheelwright possesses fine tact and excellent business qualities, and inherits from his New England ancestry those sterling traits of character that

Yours Truly,
James Ramsey

have won him the confidence and respect of the entire community. He and his wife are people of true culture, occupying a high position among the best people of the town, and their home is rendered attractive to their many friends or to the stranger that happens beneath its sheltering roof, by the genial courtesy and warm hospitality of the host and hostess. It is needless to say that our subject is as stanch a Republican as in the days when to stand by his party meant the loss of office.

JAMES RAMSEY, who resides on section 15, Montgomery Township, is a prominent farmer and early settler of this county. Since 1843 he has resided upon the farm where he still makes his home, and has thus witnessed the entire growth and development, the progress and advancement, which have taken place since that time. He has nobly borne his part in the work of transforming the wild prairie into cultivated farms, and for more than forty-five years has been identified with the county's history. To the men who came to the West in the early days and shared in the trials and hardships of pioneer life, the country owes her present prosperity, and to them is due a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid. They laid the foundation upon which this vast structure has been reared and infused the entire work with their strength. Not the least among that honored band is James Ramsey, and it is with pleasure that we record his sketch in the volume of his county's history.

Our subject was born in Franklin County, Ohio, on the 14th day of December, 1817, and is the eldest in a family of ten children, whose parents are William and Hannah (Cox) Ramsey. For several generations past the ancestry have been natives of Virginia. James Ramsey, grandfather of our subject, was born in that State, where, on reaching maturity he engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was descended from Scotch-Irish parentage, and in the Old Dominion married Miss Ruth Van Meter, whose ancestors were of the Pennsylvania Dutch. They removed to Ohio in 1805 and settled in Franklin County, near the present site of Columbus, though the city had not then been platted. In the community where they located, Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey both spent the remainder of their lives and died at an advanced age. They are numbered among the pioneer settlers of the Buckeye State, for the country was a wild and almost unsettled wilderness when they left their Virginian home and located within its borders. They were highly respected citizens and Mrs. Ramsey was a member of the Baptist Church.

William Ramsey, father of our subject, was born in Virginia, April 23, 1793, and when twelve years of age removed with his parents to Franklin County, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, and united in marriage with Miss Hannah Cox, a native of the county in which their wedding was celebrated. They began their domestic life in that community and four children were born unto them. In 1827, accompanied by his family, Mr. Ramsey removed to the West, locating in Downs Township, McLean County, Ill., where he made his home for one year, thence removing to Tazewell County and purchasing a farm near Tremont. He became the owner of a large amount of land in that county and was numbered among its well-to-do citizens. He made his home upon his farm in that community until called from the busy scenes of life, his death occurring July, 20, 1862. He was an industrious and energetic man, and though he had to contend with the trials and difficulties of pioneer life he secured a comfortable property for himself and family.

Since his tenth year James Ramsey, whose name heads this sketch, has been a resident of Illinois. He removed with his father's family to McLean County, and one year later came with his parents to Tazewell County, where he was reared to manhood. The educational advantages which he received were such as the district schools afforded. He conned his lessons in the typical log schoolhouse, with its rude seats made of slabs, while an immense fire-place occupied one end of the building. As soon as old enough to handle a plow he assisted his father in the farm work, and from that time has been engaged in agricultural pursuits.

He remained under the parental roof until 1841, and shortly afterward came to this county, then an almost unbroken wilderness. Its wild and uncultivated prairies were still covered with rank grass, many of the towns and villages had not yet sprung into existence and the few settlements that had been made were widely scattered. Mr. Ramsey could ride for miles across the country without coming across a fence to obstruct his way and impede his progress. The change since that time is indeed great. Even those gifted with a seemingly prophetic instinct could not have imagined, much less realized, the transformation which was soon to be brought about and which has placed Woodford County in the front rank in this vast commonwealth. On his arrival our subject at once gave his attention to farming, and is now the owner of some of the most valuable land to be found in this section of the country. His fine farm situated on section 15, Montgomery Township, comprises 420 acres of land, and he also owns an 80-acre tract in Tazewell County. The entire amount is highly cultivated, many useful and beautiful improvements have been made, his barns and outbuildings are models of convenience, and his home is a neat and substantial residence. His life has been one of industry and toil. He possesses good business ability and has the necessary energy and perseverance which are so essential to success. The prosperity which has attended him is due entirely to his own efforts, and he is numbered among the self-made men of the community.

After coming to Woodford County, Mr. Ramsey formed the acquaintance of Miss Ann M. Harding, who on March 27, 1844, became his wife. She was born in Leicestershire, England, on the 11th day of January, 1818, and is a daughter of William and Sarah (Cragg) Harding, also natives of the same shire. Her father was a contractor and builder and during the greater part of his life followed that occupation. The children of the family, eight in number, were all born in England, and in the fall of 1832 accompanied their parents to the United States. The party embarked from Liverpool in the sailing vessel "St. John," and after six weeks spent upon the water landed in New York City. For four years they resided in Utica, N.Y., when in 1836 they emigrated to the then wild West, locating in Tazewell County, Ill., where Mr. Harding purchased a farm. Some years later he removed with his family to Peoria and retired from active life. He died at his home in that city at the age of seventy-five years, and his wife, who was a member of the Church of England, was called to her final rest at the advanced age of eighty years.

Mrs. Ramsey came to America in her girlhood days and had not yet attained to maturity when the family came to Illinois. By her marriage, she became the mother of four children, three of whom are yet living: Julia A. is now the wife of William H. Moobery, a resident farmer of Olio Township; Caroline E. wedded Charles J. Gibson, who is engaged in farming in Cruger Township; Walter C., who married Irene Osborn, resides upon a farm in Montgomery Township, comprising a part of the old homestead; Frances M. died at the age of five years. Mr. Ramsey and his wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian Church and are active workers for its intersts. They have a pleasant home in Montgomery Township, where hospitality and good-will abounds, and have reared a family of children who do honor to their name. In the social world they hold a high position and are greatly respected by all who know them. In political sentiment, Mr. Ramsey is a supporter of the Republican party and has held various local offices of trust.

A lithographic portrait of Mr. Ramsey appears elsewhere in this volume.

CALVIN S. MILLER. Woodford County has no better representative of its native-born citizens, who are to-day actively promoting its highest interests, educational, moral, and material, than the subject of this biography. A young man, gifted with fine mental attributes and good physical powers, for some years classed among the educators of his native county, he is meeting with encouraging success in the prosecution of his hon-

orable calling as a farmer, and his farm on section 16, Panola Township, compares favorably in all points with others in its vicinity. The parents of our subject, John T. and Mary M. (Foutz), natives of Virginia, were well-known among the early pioneers of Woodford County, and are still numbered among its honored residents, having been witnesses of almost the entire growth of the county, and prominent factors in promoting its agricultural development. They have accumulated a very handsome property, and are spending life's decline in ease and comfort in their cozy home in Greene Township, of which they were very early settlers, and where they eliminated a large farm from the wild prairies and tracts of forest. They came to this county in the fall of 1854, in the vigor and prime of young manhood and womanhood. For a while after his arrival Mr. Miller worked out by the day or month on a farm, being employed by a fellow pioneer. He subsequently bought a small tract of unimproved land in Greene Township. But before he had prepared much of it for cultivation, he disposed of it at good advantage, and purchased the farm on which he has ever since made his home. He bought at first 120 acres of raw prairie land, on which a furrow had never been turned, or any attempt made to improve it. He built a small frame house, 16x18 feet, which forms a part of his present residence, he having made additions to it, and made of it a more roomy dwelling. He has increased the original acreage of his farm, and it now comprises 300 acres of land of exceeding fertility, and is classed among the best farms in that region. He and his wife experienced many of the trials and privations of a pioneer life, had in their early years to sacrifice much, and had to work hard to maintain their children, to educate them, and make of them intelligent and useful members of society. But that life had its compensations and pleasures.

Some one has said that those who endured it were "better fitted for the cares and responsibilities of after-life," that it made them "have a warmer side for their fellow-men, and created a willingness to lend a hand to those in distress." They and their fellow-pioneers were drawn together by the strong tie of mutual sufferings and hardships encountered together, and they made many warm and lasting friends in those early years of their settlement, and they still have a wide acquaintance throughout the county, and are known and honored as representatives of the old pioneers, so many of whom have passed to their reward beyond the grave. Mr. Miller has borne a part in the management of public affairs in his township, and served as Justice of the Peace for several years, and has in every way sought to promote the highest good of his adopted county. He and his wife have had eight children, of whom seven are living: Charles E., in Greene Township; Calvin S., our subject; Milus L., in Greene Township; Clementine J., wife of Charles McCauley, in Panola Township; Melissa B., deceased; Dora A.; Zua S.; and Clara D.

Calvin Miller was born in Greene Township, Oct. 19, 1857. His paternal ancestors were of German blood. He received the basis of a liberal education in the district schools of his native place, and at the age of seventeen years he entered the Northern Illinois Normal School, at Normal, one of the most excellent literary institutions in the Northwest, and pursued with credit the prescribed course for two years, and became well fitted for the profession of teacher, which he adopted after finishing his studies, and for some nine years was successfully engaged as an instructor in the public schools of his native State. He was regarded as an able and skillful teacher, by those in authority, his methods were commended, he stood high among his fellow-instructors, and his withdrawal to turn his attention to agriculture was considered a loss to the educational profession in this county. He had been reared to the life of a farmer, and it still had its allurements, and resolving to return to it, in 1882 he settled on his present farm, which contains eighty acres of valuable land, well-improved, and supplied with the necessary buildings, machinery, and other desirable appointments. He has been prospered in his enterprise, and is managing his farm very profitably, so as to secure a good income.

Dec. 29, 1885, Mr. Miller and Miss Leta Boyd were united in marriage. Mrs. Miller is a daughter of George and Eliza J. (Pierce) Boyd, early

settlers of the county, now living near Eureka, Ill. For further particulars concerning them, see sketch of their son-in-law Horace Major, on another page of this volume. Mrs. Miller is a lady of true culture, and was finely educated at Eureka College. She is an earnest and consistent member of the Christian Church. Both she and her husband take an active interest in social matters in their neighborhood, and are popular with all. Mr. Miller is a generous, high-minded young man, of liberal and progressive views, and as such is a desirable addition to the citizenship of this community. He is now serving as one of the School Trustees of the township, and is doing what lies in his power to promote the cause of education.

CHRISTIAN ENGEL. Among the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of Panola Township, perhaps none have labored with better results than the subject of this sketch, who has a finely improved homestead on section 3. One of the leading elements of his character has been that of a persevering industry, which is content with nothing else than excellence, and it must be admitted that he has very nearly approached the standard which he set up for himself when first locating upon his farm, then merely a tract of wild land. A native of what was then the French province of Alsace, he was born Aug. 11, 1830, and is the son of Joseph and Barbara Engel, who were natives of the same province.

Our subject came to America with his parents when a child of five years, taking passage at Havre on a sailing vessel, and being about thirty-five days on the ocean. Landing in New Orleans, they lived there about eleven months, during which time the greater part of their means was spent in providing for their wants, and the father after some difficulty finally secured enough for the removal of his family to Illinois. Soon after their arrival they settled on a tract of new land in Worth Township, sheltering themselves in a log shanty, around which two or three acres of ground had been broken. The father had secured 160 acres, a large portion of which was covered with an undergrowth of brush, and the task of preparing the soil for cultivation was by no means a light one. He persevered, however, and in due time met with his reward. He spent his last days at the homestead he had built up, his death occurring in 1863.

To the parents of our subject there were born five children, four of whom are living, viz: Katie, Mrs. Plank, a widow, and living in Woodford County; Magdalena, Mrs. Peter Naffzner; Mary and Christian. The elder Engel was a Democrat, politically, and in religious matters a member of the Mennonite Church. His name is worthy of mention as one who endured many hardships, and who persevered through many difficulties, while watching and assisting in the growth and development of his adopted county.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood and youth under the parental roof, assisting in the development of the homestead, and receiving a limited education in the log cabin school house, under a system of instruction far inferior to that of the present day. In order to obtain this he was obliged to walk four or five miles. He grew up with a stout and rugged frame, and imbued with those principles of honesty which have won him the respect of his fellow-citizens. The 5th of December, 1853, marked an eventful era in his life, as upon that day he was married to Miss Magdelena, sister of Christian Donner, who is a resident of Panola Township, and who is represented elsewhere in this work. This union resulted in the birth of a large family of children, and the survivors are recorded as follows: Joseph and Lizzie (the wife of Joseph Gingridge) are residents of Clay County, Kan.; Frank is the telegraph operator and station agent at Roanoke, Ill.; Barbara is the wife of Daniel Roth, of this county; Edward remains at home with his parents; Emma is the wife of J. Gringridge, of Livingston County; Mattie, Peter, Minnie and Matilda are at home with their parents.

Mr. Engel is the owner of land to the extent of 320 acres, the whole of which he has accumulated by his own unaided industry and good management. His cozy residence is represented by an

engraving to be found on another page, and the interior arrangement displays the same taste and liberality as is noticeable without. Having located upon his present farm in the spring of 1856, he is thus one of the oldest settlers in Panola Township, in whose local affairs he has been quite prominent, officiating as Road Commissioner and School Trustee, and has served in the latter position for a period of nearly nine years. Politically, he is a straightforward Democrat, and in his religious views he is a Mennonite.

DR. JAMES S. WHITMIRE is one of the most distinguished members of the medical profession as represented in Woodford County. He was the first graduate of a medical college to establish himself in the county, and for forty-three years his home has been in Metamora. In many a household his presence has brought healing or stayed the hand of death, and its inmates regard him as a well-beloved physician and a true friend.

The doctor was born in the town of Sidney, Shelby Co., Ohio, Dec. 13, 1821. His father, John Whitmire, was born in Rockingham County, Va. His father was of German birth and parentage, and accompanied his parents to America in Colonial times. The family located in Virginia, and the father served in the Revolutionary War. He spent his last years in Rockingham County. The grandfather of our subject was but a boy when he left his native Germany for America, and he was reared and married in Virginia, and during his life time carried on the trade of a shoemaker. He died in Rockingham County. The father of our subject learned the trade of a tanner and currier in his youth, and at the age of twenty-one left his early home in Virginia, and crossing the mountains into Ohio, he became a pioneer of Licking County, and there married Elizabeth (Robinson) Harris, who was like himself, a native of Virginia. Her father, Stephen Robinson, was also a native of Virginia, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. He removed from the Old Dominion, to Licking County, Ohio, and was one of the pioneers there, purchasing a large tract of land, and improving a farm, on which he resided until death called him hence. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Odeeker. She is supposed to have been a native of Virginia, and she spent her last years in Licking County, Ohio. Her parents were natives of Bulgaria, who on becoming converted to Christianity, were greatly persecuted on account of their belief, and sought religious freedom in America, and locating in Virginia, there quietly passed their remaining years. After marriage the parents of our subject removed to Shelby County, and there the father established himself as a tanner and currier at Sydney, and carried on the business there upwards of twenty years. He then sold his property in Ohio, and packing his household goods in a wagon, started with his family in 1840, for the wilds of Illinois. After his arrival he bought land in Virginia Township, Cass County, and engaged in farming. In 1854 he removed to Johnson County, Tex., where he bought land, and carried on agricultural pursuits, passing the rest of his life there, his death occurring in 1873, four days before he was eighty years old. His wife had passed to eternal rest many years before, dying in Ohio in 1837.

Dr. Whitmire lived with his father in Ohio until 1840, and then accompanied him to this State. At that time Northern and Central Illinois were sparsely settled, and deer and other kinds of game roamed over the uncultivated prairies and through the timber. Our subject's chances for obtaining an education were very limited, the only schools being taught on the subscription plan, and his father being in reduced circumstances, probably could not afford to pay the fee, so our subject had to work to assist in supporting the family. At the age of sixteen he began to learn the trade of a shoemaker. But the ambitious lad was very desirous to obtain an education, and all the books he could get hold of were found on his bench, and he often snatched a bit of time to study, and in that way gleaned the preliminaries of a liberal education. Soon after the removal of the family to Illinois, he made the acquaintance of W. H. H. Carpenter, a Yale graduate, and Clerk of the County Court. That gentleman

took quite an interest in the thoughtful, studious youth, and encouraged him in his studies by lending him books, and hearing him recite two lessons a week without charge. He studied with Mr. Carpenter three years, and then his friend advised him to go to Beardstown, and apply for the school at that place. Taking Mr. Carpenter's wise counsel, our subject borrowed fifty cents from him, and then walked to Beardstown, a distance of ten miles. On his arrival he found twelve other applicants, fresh from the Illinois College. He ascertained when the examination was to be, and then went home to await the day, and on its arrival he returned to Beardstown, passed the examination successfully, and secured the school over his competitors, who although they had been more favored than he in some respects in educational advantages, had not had the good fortune to be drilled in their studies as he had been. He taught a six-months term in Beardstown, and then went to Macomb, where he taught nearly a year and a half. In that way he earned the money with which to secure a medical education, he having a decided taste for that profession. He began his studies for that purpose while teaching, and after that for some time devoted his entire attention to it under the direction of doctors James B. Kyle, of Macomb, and M. H. L. Schooley, of Virginia, Cass County as preceptors. In 1846 he located in Metamora, and commenced to practice. In the winter of 1846-47 he attended medical lectures, and was graduated from the medical department of the Illinois College at Jacksonville, in the spring of 1847. In 1850 he entered Rush Medical College, and received an *ad eundem* for a thesis and original investigation with regard to the antidotal properties of iodine to the venom of the rattlesnake. He resumed practice in Metamora; but he was still desirous to increase his knowledge of medicine, and in 1855 he became a student in the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, which celebrated institution has sent out many famous physicians. He was graduated with honor in the spring of 1856, and returning to Metamora, was actively engaged in practice here until 1861. In that year the breaking out of the war offered a wider field of usefulness for many of our talented physicians, and in September our subject joined the army as assistant surgeon of the 6th Illinois Cavalry, serving in that position eight months, and then receiving the appointment to the sergeantcy of the 56th Illinois Infantry, serving with distinction in that position until July, 1863, when he resigned, and returning to Metamora, re-established himself in practice. He has witnessed with great satisfaction almost all the growth of this city and of the county, as when he came here many years ago a great deal of the land was owned by the Government, and was for sale at $1.25 an acre, and deer and other wild animals abounded. There were no railways here, and all transportation was done by stage for several years. He has lived to see the country well-developed and wealthy. Large cities and towns have sprung up on every hand on the once wild prairies, and prosperity is everywhere apparent.

The doctor was married in 1846, to Miss Sidnah Robinson. She was born in Morgan County, Ill., and is a daughter of Joel and Elizabeth (Greene) Robinson, who were born respectively in Licking and Knox counties, Ohio. They emigrated to Morgan County, Ill., in 1821, where they remained on the farm on which they first settled, until their death. The doctor and his wife have had six children, of whom four are living: Mary Melinda married D. D. Fairchild, of Peoria, and they have three children—Gracie, Gertha, and Reuben; Joe Wallace, a physician in Forest, Ill., married Laura L. Northcut, and they have one child, June; Clarence Leonard, a physician in Waverly, Iowa, married Mary Barrett; Zackie L. is a student at Rush Medical College. Doctor Whitmire enjoys a high personal standing throughout the county as a physician of fine mental endowments, possessing a profound knowledge of medicine, and of exceptional skill and wide experience. He is a whole-souled, big-hearted man, and above all things charitable and kind to the suffering and needy, and out of pure benevolence has practiced gratis among the poor, calling down their devoted affection and blessing on his head. He is a man of large public-spirit, and has exerted a marked influence in advancing the highest interests of Metamora. He has taken a prominent part in the civic life of his town. was one of the first members of the Town Board, and has

served several terms. Politically, he is a prominent member of the Republican party, and has been connected with it since its formation, having been Chairman of the first Central Committee in the county. In early days he was a Whig, and cast his first Presidental vote for Henry Clay. He is identified with the G. A. R., as a member of Bogardus Post No. 474. He is an honored member of the Woodford County Medical Society, with which he has been connected since its organization, when he was appointed the first President of the society. He also belongs to the North Central Illinois Medical Society, of which he was the first President. He joined the State Medical Society when it was organized in 1850, and it is a remarkable fact that he has missed but four meetings of the society since its formation, two of those meetings occurring while he was in the army. The doctor first discovered the use of carbolic acid in the treatment of erysipelas, and reported the same to the State Medical Society in 1871-72.

JOHN SADLER, who is residing on a farm near Eureka, is one of the early settlers of this county, having come to Illinois as early as 1847. He was born near Richmond, Va., Sept. 16, 1815, and where he lived until a youth of sixteen or eighteen years. He then went into Augusta County, Va., where he sojourned until starting out for the West. He was then married, and settled in due time upon the land which he now owns and where he has since resided. He was married in this county to Miss Eliza Meek, and to them there were born three children—Joseph, John and Jackson. The mother of these children died, and he then married Miss Mary A. Park, and to them was born a daughter, Sophia. His third wife was Martha M. Swarens, who was born in Indiana in 1831. Of this union there are ten children living, namely: Sarah, Emma, Martha, Anna, Florence, Clara, Warren, Lee, McClellan and Charles E. One daughter, Nancy E., died at the age of twenty years; Elmira and Cinderella died in early childhood. Mr. Sadler, politically, is a staunch Democrat, while all the family belong to the Christian Church. Our subject owns farm property to the extent of 272 acres of land, and has good buildings on his homestead.

DARWIN A. WARD. This gentleman stands well to the front among the active young farmers of Woodford County, who are intelligently and skillfully carrying on agricultural pursuits within her borders, and they are the ones to whom she will one day look as the main support of her great farming interests. Although not a native of the county, a son of pioneer parents, he was reared within her borders, has witnessed much of her growth, and since attaining man's estate has identified himself with one of her principal industries. He owns and is managing with good judgment a farm in Greene Township, that compares in cultivation and improvement very favorably with others in its vicinity, and a successful future is predicted for him by those who have watched his career from boyhood.

The subject of this biographical review is a native of West Virginia, born in Marshall County, Jan. 19, 1856. His parents are John and Jane (Bryson) Ward, natives of West Virginia and Ohio respectively (for parental history see biography of John Ward).

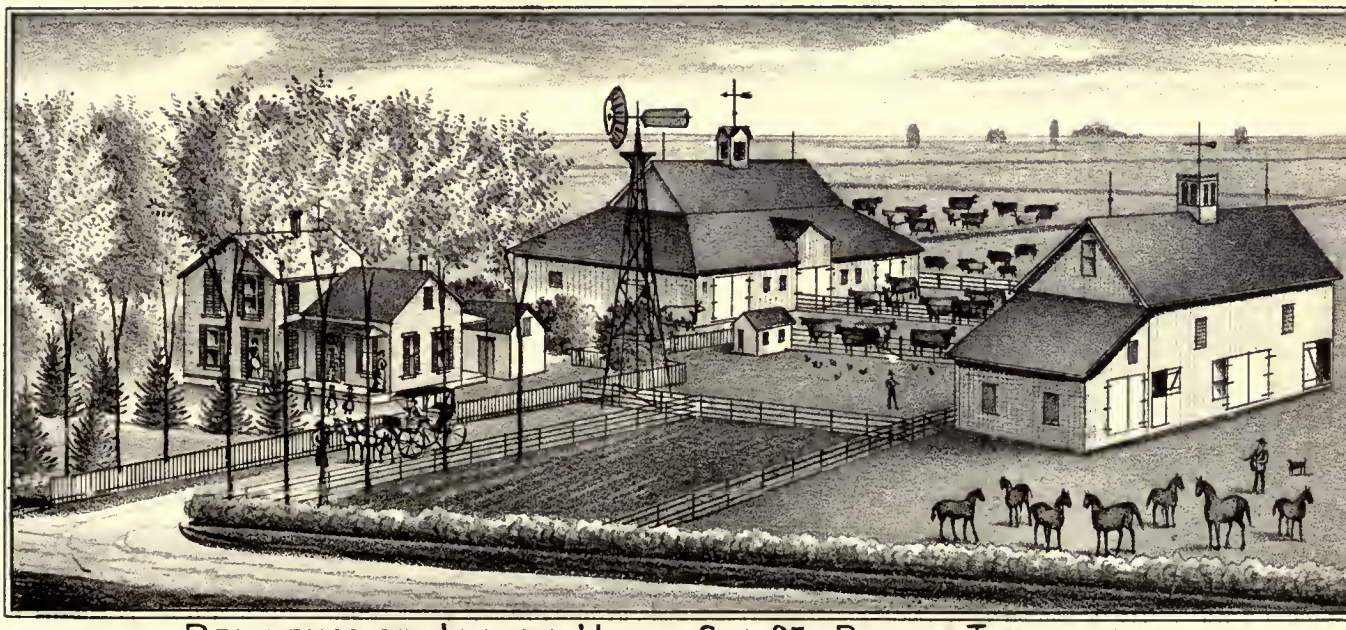
When his parents brought him to Woodford County in 1857 our subject was only a year old, and he can therefore have no recollection of the home of his birth. His boyhood and youth were passed here on the paternal homestead, and from his father he gained a sound practical knowledge of agriculture in all its branches, which has been of inestimable value to him in his after career as a farmer. He attended the public schools and gleaned the basis of a sound education, and when about twenty years of age, ambitious to have more learning, he became a student at the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., and was in attendance there a year, pursuing an excellent course of

study and taking good rank in his elasses. After leaving college he returned home and assisted his father in the management of his agrieultural interests till he was twenty-three years old, when he began farming on his own aeeount on the farm where he now resides. He owns 271 aeres of land exeeedingly fertile and highly produetive, pleasantly loeated in Greene Township, provided with suitable buildings and good machinery for earrying on agriculture to the best advantage. In the management of his farm he shows himself to be a eompetent and intelligent agriculturist and bids fair to one day plaee himself among the most substantial and wealthy farmers of Greene Township. He is possessed of good mental endowments that have been developed by edueation, and he is one of our most eultured and well informed young men. His personal character is unblemished, his habits exeellent and his standing in the eommunity high. In his politieal views he is an ardent Republiean. Publie-spirited, he is eager to do what he ean to promote the highest interests of the eounty where he has had his home nearly all his life.

JOSEPH HAAS, a fine representative of the native born eitizens of Woodford County, who, by sheer foree of energy and perseveranee, have made themselves prominent faetors in developing and sustaining its agricultural interests, is the owner of a fine farm pleasantly loeated on seetion 27, Panola Township, where he is engaged in farming and stock-raising.

Joseph Haas is of German parentage, born near Spring Bay, Sept. 9, 1843. The parents of our subjeet, John and Anne Haas, were born and reared in Bavaria, Germany, emigrating from there to the United States in 1836. They took passage in a sailing-vessel, and had a long and tedious voyage of five months before landing in New York City. On arriving there, Mr. Haas had only $3 in money, but he proeured work at his trade of shoemaking, and as soon as he had earned a sufficient sum, eame to Woodford County. He loeated near Spring Bay, where he bought a farm of 160 aeres, ten of whieh were broken, and a rude log eabin had been built. The land was covered with timber, but by dint of hard labor and eourageous industry, he sueeeeded in improving a fine farm. The task of elearing the land was no sineeure, but required unceasing toil and perseveranee. His tools and farming implements were the most simple, and he has eut many a huge log in two with a eross-eut saw. In those early days, ere the eonstruetion of railways, faeilities for transportation were limited, and much time was eonsumed in traveling a short distanee. Chieago being the nearest grain market, Mr. Haas had to convey his wheat to that eity in an ox-team, it taking him two weeks to make the round trip, while the priee received for the grain was only thirty-six cents a bushel. His wagon was home-made; the wheels, which were sawed from a log, were about three feet in diameter, six inehes wide, and had a hole bored in the center. Notwithstanding the laek of machinery and implements that render farming a pleasure as well as a profit in these days, Mr. Haas, like many another of the pioneers, was enabled to keep his family in eomfort, and aeeumulate some property. He was a warm-hearted, publie-spirited man, generous and eharitable in his disposition, always ready to aid the suffering and the destitute. He was well and favorably known throughout the eounty, and his death, whieh oeeurred July 6, 1857, was mourned by all. In him the Catholie Chureh lost one of its most esteemed members. Mr. Haas was twiee married, and the father of a large family of ehildren, of whom the following are yet living, namely: Mary, wife of Peter Beneman, of Peoria County, Ill.; Joseph; Peter, of El Paso, Ill.; Maggie, wife of John Miller, of Woodford County. Of those who are deeeased, three were aeeidentally drowned in Partridge Creek, this eounty, the misfortune oeeurring while the parents, aeeompanied by their ehildren and a hired man, were returning from a visit to a relative. Dnring their absenee a heavy rain had fallen, and on the way home, when the hired man drove through the ford, the water was so high that it lifted the wagon-box off the wheels, and the whole family were thus thrown into the stream at a point where

RESIDENCE OF JACOB RICH, SEC. 35. CRUGER TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH HAAS, SEC. 27. PANOLA TOWNSHIP

the water was ten feet deep. Three of the children were engulfed by the cruel, raging waters, and at last exhausted, sank to rise no more. The happy family circle was broken, and their joyous home changed to a house of mourning.

Joseph Haas, the subject of this brief personal narrative, was reared to manhood in his native county, amid the busy scenes of pioneer life, and did his full share in assisting his father on the farm. He has taken an active part in promoting the rapid growth and progress of the county, and has watched with a proud interest its transformation from a wild and uncultivated country, to one of the richest and most prolific agricultural regions of the State. He began his education in the log schoolhouse of that day, and has since been continually adding to it by systematic reading, and is now possessed of a large amount of general information, and is well posted on the topics of the day.

As soon as well established in life, and able to maintain a family, our subject took upon himself the cares of a household, being united in marriage, Nov. 22, 1865, to Miss Mary Simon, a native of Germany. Her father, John B. Simon, emigrated to America with his family, when Mrs. Haas was about four years of age, and became one of the original settlers of Worth Township. There were eight daughters born to him and his wife, of whom two, Magdalena and Osina are deceased, the following being recorded of the six living: Elizabeth is the wife of Conrad Kerker, of Worth Township; Catherine is the widow of Lorrenz Schneider; Annie married Charles Theobald, of Worth Township; Effie is the wife of Adam Staub, of Worth Township; Maggie is the wife of Peter Heininger, of Peoria County; Mary is the wife of our subject.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Haas has been blessed with eleven children, seven of whom are living, namely: Joseph P., Emma R., Angie E., Andrew F., Theresa L., Archibald S., and Ralph B. Mr. Haas removed to his present farm in 1864, and has been a continuous resident here since. It contains 240 acres of arable land, under a good state of cultivation, on which he has erected ample and substantial buildings. He pays much attention to stock-raising, and annually feeds and ships large numbers of hogs and other stock. He has a herd of fine Durham cattle, and three-quarter blooded Norman horses, that compare with the best in this vicinity. He has made nearly all the improvements on his homestead, and has erected a residence which is a credit to himself, and an ornament to his township, and which is represented elsewhere in this volume by a fine engraving.

In his political views Mr. Haas is not confined within any party lines, but reserves the right to support the men whom he considers best qualified to fill the offices, having, however, a leaning toward the Democratic party. He is deeply interested in educational matters, and has served several terms as School Director. Being a man of sound common-sense, strict integrity, and an able business man, his opinions are uniformly respected, and he is held in high regard throughout the community. In religion, both Mr. and Mrs. Haas and children, are valued members of the Roman Catholic Church of El Paso, and contribute liberally toward its support.

JACOB RICH, one of the prominent farmers of this county, and whose farm is located on section 35, and township 26, Cruger Township, is the son of Joseph Rich, a native of France. The father of our subject came to America when he was eighteen years of age, settling in New York State, where he remained for three years. Thence he removed to Ohio, where he resided two and a half years. With the view of bettering his condition he thence emigrated to Illinois, making the journey by horse and buggy. Arriving in Illinois, he settled in Tazewell County, about the year 1835. Here he has prospered to such an extent that at one time he was the owner of nearly 1,000 acres of land in that and Woodford counties. Having achieved a competence he has retired from active life, and is spending his last years in rest and the enjoyment to which his years of labor entitle him. He resides in the village of Washington, and has attained the age of sixty-eight years. He has been twice married. The first marriage took place in Tazewell County, the

bride being Miss Catherine Rich, who, though she bore the same name, was no blood relation of his. She died when our subject was seven years of age. To Mrs. Rich were born five children, viz: David, Jacob (our subject), Mary, Lydia and Daniel. Mary became the wife of Peter Schertz, of Metamora, and departed this life at the age of twenty-seven. In due time Mr. Rich contracted a second marriage with Catherine Zimmerman, of Johnson County, Iowa. She bore her husband two sons, Joseph and Christian.

Jacob Rich was born in Tazewell County, Ill., March 15, 1853, where he grew to man's estate on his father's farm, attending the district school during his youth and employing the intervals in such work as his strength permitted him to perform. In the spring of 1878 he left the parental roof and settled in Cruger Township, where he has 300 acres of land, on which he has erected a fine dwelling and all the other necessary buildings. Being an intelligent business man, and believing that farming should pay, he gives close attention year by year to raising such crops as the market seems to indicate will be the most remunerative. He also has some fine stock, consisting of Poland-China hogs and Norman horses, in the latter of which he takes special delight. As a consequence he is prosperous and able to entertain generously all whom his large heart prompts him to receive under his roof.

Mr. Rich was married in Tazewell County, Ill., on the 5th of February, 1878, to Miss Sommer, a daughter of John and Barbara (Schertz) Sommer, who were natives of France. They came to America with their parents when quite young. Growing up as friends, they became lovers, and after marriage followed the Star of Empire westward, settling in Tazewell County. There were born to them eight children: Catherine, Josephi, Mary, John, Maggie (Mrs. Rich), Lizzie, Davis and Annie. Of these the last two died in infancy. Mrs Rich is a native of this county, having been born March 8, 1852.

Mr. and Mrs. Rich are the parents of two children—Silas G. and Alvin J. Beyond attending to his duty in the matter of voting, Mr. Rich gives very little attention to political questions. Nevertheless, being held in high esteem by his neighbors, he has accepted some of the minor offices in the township when urged to do so by his friends. In voting he supports the Democratic candidates. He and his wife are both consistent members of the Mennonite Church. A lithographic view of the elegant home of Mr. and Mrs. Rich appears elsewhere in this work.

SAMUEL LYBARGER, one of the substantial, well-to-do farmers of Cazenovia Township, where he has a pleasant hospitable home on section 20, has been connected with the agricultural interests of Woodford County, several years, and has shown himself to be in all points a desirable citizen and a good neighbor. He comes of a long line of honorable Pennsylvania ancestry, among whom were some of the first settlers of that State. He was born in Londonderry Township, Bedford Co., Pa., Sept. 9, 1827, that part of the country having been the home of his progenitors for many years, he being one of the eighth generation in America. His grandfather, Henry Lybarger, was a millwright by trade, and always followed that calling, and spent his entire life in Bedford County. His son Anthony, father of our subject, was born and reared on a farm, and after marriage went to Ohio, and became a pioneer of Knox County, buying a tract of land in the midst of the primeval forests that at that time covered Monroe Township. There were thirty-five acres of his land cleared, and he erected a hewed-log house on the place, and began the cultivation of his land, and set about clearing the remainder. He reclaimed the greater part of it from the wilderness, and resided thereon till 1864, when he removed to Shelby County, Ill., and bought land in Flat Branch Township. He resided there eighteen months, and then closed with a good offer to sell his farm at quite an advance on the price that he paid for it, and returned to Ohio, and bought a farm and one-half interest in a mill in Knox County, and from there to Richland County, where he bought a

farm, on which he resided till his death, in 1884, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. He was a man of considerable enterprise, a hard worker, possessed solid common sense, and was just and honest to a high degree, and was almost continuously in office. The maiden name of his wife was Elizabeth Geller, and she was a native of the same county as himself, as was also her father, Andrew Geller, who spent his whole life there. The mother of our subject died in 1836, while yet a young woman, and left five children, as follows: William, now deceased; Samuel, our subject; Mary, and Ann Eliza, residing in Richland County; Job, living in Effingham County, Ill. The latter married a second time, Marjory McKinney becoming his wife. She died, in 1888, without issue.

Samuel was a child of three years when his parents moved to Ohio, and under the influence of the pioneer life that prevailed there in that early day he was reared to a manly, stalwart manhood. There were no railways in the West in those days, and the removal had been made with teams. He was bred to a farmer's life, and remained an inmate of the parental household till his marriage, at which time he bought land adjoining the town of Gambia, and later traded it for a large tract a mile and a half out. In 1867 he sold his property in Ohio, and coming to Shelby County, this State, bought eighty acres of improved land in Flat Branch Township, and 240 acres in Fayette County. He lived in Shelby County about eighteen months, and then took advantage of a good opportunity to sell his land at a large advance, and returned to Ohio, where he turned his attention to milling, and where he remained the ensuing three years. He afterward came back to Illinois and settled in Woodford County, buying land near Metamora. He resided there about eight years, and then, after spending the winter in Ohio, bought a home in the town of Metamora, which he traded two years later for a farm in Wayne County, Iowa. He removed to Warsaw, in that county, and lived there a few months, and at the expiration of that time came back to Illinois once again, and in the following spring bought his present desirable place on section 20, Cazenovia Township, and has ever since dwelt in peace and quietude, enjoying all the comforts of a well-ordered dwelling, which he and his amiable wife have made the centre of a genuine hospitality, of which all of their friends are glad to be the recipients, and strangers crossing the threshold are immediately made to feel at home.

Mr. Lybarger has been twice married. He was united to Miss Rebecca Hess April 1, 1856. She was a native of Pennsylvania, born near Pittsburgh. Her brief but happy wedded life closed in two years time, she dying leaving one child, Winfield, now living in Effingham County, Ill. Mr. Lybarger was married to his present wife, formerly Mary J. (Ayer) Trickle, in 1865. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, and is the mother of seven children—Ann, Fanny, Jennie, May, Jay, Ray and Clay. Jennie died at the age of three years, and May died in infancy. Ann married Washington Mundell; they reside in Pasadena, Cal., and have three children—Charlie, Fanny and Mary M. Fanny married Will Mundell; they live in San Diego, Cal., and have one child—Eleanor.

By a well-conducted life Mr. Lybarger has won a high reputation on the score of morality and uprightness, and by the judicious management of his affairs he is conceded to be a shrewd, practical, business-like farmer. He is an honored supporter of the Democratic party, and is thoroughly convinced that its policy in regard to the management of the Government is better than that of any other political party. Mrs. Lybarger is a devoted member of the Christian Church, and follows its teachings in her daily life.

CHRISTIAN MILLER, a prosperous and progressive farmer of Palestine Township, residing on section 31, is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg, on the 1st day of February, 1832. He is the youngest of a family of three sons born to John S. and Anna M. (Biser) Miller. His father was a mason and stonecutter by trade and followed that business throughout the greater part of his life. He died in the land where his entire life was

passed, and his wife also was called to her final home in 1835, while residing in Wurtemberg. They were members of the Lutheran Church and were highly esteemed by those who knew them.

Christian Miller, the subject of this notice, passed the days of his boyhood and youth in his native country and in the schools of the neighborhood received his education. He was but three years of age when the death of his mother occurred, and he was thus deprived of her loving care and counsel. He remained under the parental roof until attaining his twentieth year, when he determined to try his fortunes in the New World. Bidding good-by to home and friends he crossed the broad Atlantic in 1852, and settled in Germantown, Pa., near the city of Philadelphia. A brother of our subject had emigrated to America in 1849, and a third one came in 1872. John C., the youngest brother, passed his entire life in Germantown. He died at the age of fifty-eight years, leaving a wife and two children, George J. and Lena, to mourn his loss. John G., the eldest brother, is married and has a family and resides in Germantown, where he is employed in a brewery.

Like his brothers, Christian also settled in Germantown, Pa. He had previously learned the cooper's trade in his native land and for some time followed that occupation for a livelihood. He removed to Norristown, Montgomery Co., Pa., in 1853, and later became a resident of New York City, whence he went to Scranton, Pa., where he made his home until coming to Woodford County.

After his arrival in Illinois Mr. Miller formed the acquaintance of Mrs. Mary P. Phaster, whom he wooed and won. She was born in Virginia, on the 25th day of November, 1827, and when nine years of age, in 1836, came with her parents to this county, where she was reared and married. Mrs. Phaster was the mother of three children by her first husband, as follows: Barbara, who is now the wife of George Scougle, a farmer residing in Tazewell County; Henry, who married Sophia Esselman, and is now engaged in farming in Phelps County, Neb.; and Sarah A., wife of John Fellows, who is also engaged in agricultural pursuits in Phelps County. No children were born to Mr. Miller by this union. In 1887 Mr. Miller was called upon to mourn the loss of his wife, a member of the Christian Church and a most estimable lady, who died at her home in Palestine Township, on the 13th day of December. He was again married, his second union being with Elizabeth Slack, a native of this county, born in 1866. They have one child, a little daughter, Lena.

Mr. Miller has made farming his principal occupation through life and has been quite successful in the undertaking. He has made his home in Palestine Township since 1855 and has resided upon his present farm for about thirty years. It was his first purchase of land and comprises 200 acres situated on section 31. He has made it what it is. The entire amount is now highly improved and cultivated, and the barns and outbuildings are all that are necessary to a model farm, while the stock which he raises is of the best grades. Upon the homestead he has erected a comfortable residence, which is represented on another page by a lithographic engraving. Though he began life in limited circumstances, he is now numbered among the well-to-do farmers of the county, having by his own efforts of industry, perseverance and energy, supplemented by good business ability, secured a comfortable competency. As a citizen Mr. Miller is public-spirited and progressive and is one of the representative men of the township. He has been honored with various local offices of trust, including that of Commissioner of Highways, which he held for seven years, and in all the offices he discharged the duties devolving upon him with the same promptness and fidelity which has characterized his entire business career.

JACOB HOLLENBACK has lived in this section of the State for over half a century, and was for many years prosperously connected with its agricultural interests as proprietor of over 300 acres of land in Linn Township, which he reclaimed from its original wildness and transformed into one of the most valuable townships of the county. He has accumulated a hand-

some competence and is now living in retirement in his tasty and commodious residence in the village of Washburn.

Born a mile and a half from Rehobeth, Perry Co., Ohio, July 14, 1827, our subject is the son of Daniel Hollenback, a native of Pennsylvania. The grandparents of Jacob Hollenback removed at an early day to Perry County, Ohio, where they spent the declining period of their lives. Their son Daniel was reared under the parental roof in Ohio, and upon reaching manhood married Martha Thralls, a native of Maryland. He and his young wife lived on a farm until 1835, then starting across the country to Illinois, they made the journey after the pioneer style of those times, cooking and camping by the way when night came on. The father of our subject first located at the head of Crow Creek in Marshall County, where he bought a tract of partly improved land with a log cabin standing on it, which became the home of his family. In 1860 he sold that place and removing to Minonk passed the remainder of his life there, dying Jan. 13, 1868, when a little more than seventy-two years of age. His wife had died prior to his decease, her death occurring March 19, 1864, aged sixty-nine years and four months. To her and her husband were born eight children, all of whom were reared to maturity. Daniel Hollenback was a man of good abilities, and by thrift, toil and good investments accumulated a goodly amount of property. As a pioneer of Marshall County, he did his share in promoting its development, while his name and memory are held in reverence and honor, as are those of his noble, self-sacrificing, courageous contemporaries.

He of whom we write was eight years of age when he came to Illinois with his parents, and he has a clear remembrance of the journey thither and of the incidents of pioneer life that followed. There were no railways here for years after the family removed to their new home, and his father used to carry grain to Lacon to market. As soon as our subject was large enough to shoulder a gun he commenced to hunt, and killed many deer and wolves and used to supply the family larder with choice game. He lived under the parental roof until he attained his majority and then established a home of his own, taking unto himself a wife in the person of Margaret McCune, who was born in Cumberland County, Pa., August 31, 1830. Her father, William McCune, was also a native of the same county, and was there reared and married. In the year 1833 he removed to Ohio, and settling south of Columbus lived there four years. At the expiration of that time he came to Illinois with teams and located on a tract of land that he had bought, situated eight miles southeast of Lacon. Later he returned to Ohio to settle some business matters, and on the journey the stage was overturned and he received injuries from which he never recovered, dying soon after he came back to his home. The maiden name of his wife was Eleanor Culbertson, and she was also a native of Pennsylvania, born there in 1813. She lived on the old McCune homestead until their removal, in 1833, to Ohio, when she accompanied them hither. By her union with William McCune she became the mother of eight children, viz: Samuel C., Mary Jane, Emily, John, Eleanor, Elizabeth, William and Margaret. Samuel C. became a minister of the Gospel, and labored in the service of the Master for fifty years; he married Lettie Clark, of Pennsylvania, in 1838, and moved to Illinois in 1839. Of their children, the eldest, Alexander, died during the War of the Rebellion, in which he was engaged in the Union army. He was in his twenty-fourth year when he passed away. Another son, Harold, is practicing medicine in Iowa; Charles is farming, and is yet unmarried. Samuel C. and his wife live in Oskaloosa, Iowa, being now past their threescore and ten. The second child born to William and Eleanor McCune was Mary Jane, who became the wife of Thompson Clemens, of Marshall County, Ill., by whom she had two children, sons—Chalmers and Thompson. Mrs. Clemens died suddenly when about thirty-five years of age; Emily married William Spangler in Ohio, but afterward removed to Illinois in 1837, where they reared a large family and were prospered. They died in 1885, within three months of each other. John died in infancy; Eleanor became the wife of Harry Scott, who passed to rest in 1885, leaving Mrs. Scott with six orphaned children, to mourn the loss of father and husband; Elizabeth

married A. S. Sherwood, and passed away while yet in the prime of life, leaving a large family; William died in Illinois at the home of his sister Margaret in the twenty-fourth year of his age. He had gone to California during the gold excitement, returning thence about the year 1851; Margaret married our subject, and has been a faithful wife for more than forty years.

Tracing the ancestry of Mrs. Hollenback a few generations back, we find that her grandfather, John McCune, was born in County Ulster, North of Ireland, about 1725. He was educated in the teachings of the Presbyterian Church, and after the death of his wife emigrated to America, with his two daughters, about 1760, settling in Cumberland County, Pa. He died about the beginning of the present century, while his daughters married men named respectively, McCune, and Barr. On her father's side the grandmother of Mrs. Hollenback was Mary Sharpe, a native of Scotland, and who first married James Fullerton. After his death she came to America with her brothers and her three sons—James, Alexander and Adam. About 1761 their mother married John McCune, and with him joined the Presbyterian Church. Four children were born of this second marriage—Robert, John, William (father of Mrs. Hollenback) and Mary.

Passing the years of her girlhood in the home of her sister, Mrs. Clemens, Margaret McCune left it only to enter one of her own, when she became the wife of our subject. To her and her husband four children were born, all living and in prosperous circumstances. They are: Margaret Ellen, wife of Josiah Kerriek, Mayor of Minonk; Jacob Henry, a resident of Gage County, Neb.; Clara Belle, wife of Frank Combes of this county; Charles C., at home with his parents.

After their marriage, which occurred in the month of October, 1848, Mr. and Mrs. Hollenback began housekeeping in the log cabin near the old homestead, his father having given him 154 acres of land in Linn Township. He was actively engaged in its improvement and cultivation until 1887, when he retired to Washburn to his present handsomely fitted-up dwelling. During the years of his labors he added to his real estate, until he now owns nearly a half-section of land in a body, on which he erected a neat set of frame buildings, and which is supplied with machinery and all the conveniences for carrying on agriculture.

A sober-minded, just and open-hearted individual, our subject has been an influence for good in his community, and is justly regarded with esteem by all who know him. He and his good wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are true defenders of the faith.

MARCELLUS W. WILSON represents the agricultural interests of Metamora Township, as one of its prominent and successful farmers and stock-raisers. He owns one of the most valuable farms in this vicinity, whose rich harvest fields are the source of a desirable income, and its neat and tasty buildings show to advantage amid their pleasant surroundings, the fine residence that he has erected, forming a most attractive home.

Mr. Wilson was born among the granite hills of New Hampshire in the pretty town of Gilmanton, Jan. 12, 1830. His father, Samuel T. Wilson, was born in the town of Barnstead, N. H., a son of Nathaniel Wilson, a native of New England. The latter was for some years engaged in keeping a hotel, and also in the mercantile business, and in connection operated a farm. Before the advent of railways in that part of New England, he had teams on the road, carrying goods from the coast to the interior towns. His busy life was brought to a close on his home farm in Barnstead. The father of our subject was reared and educated in his native State, and was a resident there till 1844. In that year he sought the wilds of Illinois with his family, a team conveying them to Durham, N. H., thence they went by rail to Albany, where they embarked on that great highway of pioneer travel, the Erie Canal, and at Buffalo they took passage on a boat and voyaged on the lakes to Chicago. Friends met them there with teams, and conveyed the family and goods to Metamora. After their arrival here

the father bought a tract of wild prairie land on section 16, his wife and children continuing to live in the town till the fall of the year, when he had completed a log cabin on his place for their habitation. In the busy years that followed he energetically engaged in the pioneer task of developing his land from its primitive condition into a fine, highly productive farm, on which he resided till death rounded out his long and honorable life, in January, 1875. He had erected a good set of frame buildings, and made many other valuable improvements on his homestead. His wife, whose maiden name was Laurana W. Robinson, was born in New Hampton, N. H., and was a daughter of Joseph Robinson, a native of Massachusetts. She was the mother of several children, nine of whom were reared to maturity.

He of whom we write received his education in the public schools of New Hampshire, and when a lad of fourteen years, left the hills of his native State to accompany his parents to their new home on the wide and boundless prairies of Illinois. He remembers well the appearance of the surrounding country when he first came to this county, which was at that time still in the hands of the pioneers, and had scarcely emerged from its primitive wildness. Deer, wolves, wild turkeys and other game were very plentiful here for some years after that, and there were no railways for some time to connect the county with the outside world. His father was compelled to go with a team to Chicago, 150 miles distant, to market, and the principal part of the lumber for his frame house was drawn from that city. Our subject lived with his parents till he was seventeen years old, and then learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed till he was twenty-three years old. At that time he invested his money in the farm on which he still lives, paying $6.25 an acre for it, and since his marriage he has devoted himself exclusively to farming. He bought an old schoolhouse, and moving it onto his land, remodeled it into a comfortable dwelling, and he and his family occupied it some years. In 1879 he erected a more commodious and substantial residence, in which the family have since made their home.

Jan. 9, 1856 Mr. Wilson took a step that had an important bearing on his after life, as on that date he secured a good wife in the person of Miss Patience H. Fairchild. They have one child living, Emma, the wife of Smith S. Robinson, of whom see sketch on another page. Mrs. Wilson was born near Woodstock, Champaign Co., Ohio. Her father, Harmon Fairchild, was born in the same county, and was there reared and married, and there spent his entire life. The maiden name of his wife was Phœbe Franklin. She was a native of Vermont, and a daughter of Henry and Patience (DeLong) Franklin. They removed from Vermont to Ohio with teams in 1813, and settled among the pioneers of Greene County. Two or three years later they removed to Champaign County, and there passed their last days. Mrs. Wilson's mother is living at a venerable age, and makes her home with her daughter.

Mr. Wilson is well known throughout this part of Woodford County, where so many years of his life have been passed, and it is the united testimony of all, that his personal character is above reproach. In him are exemplified the sagacity, thrift and cool, well-balanced mind that are conspicuous traits of the sturdy New England stock. In early years Mr. Wilson was a Democrat in his political views, but on the formation of the Republican party, sympathizing with the sentiments of its founders, he joined their ranks, and has been an advocate of Republican principles ever since. He and his wife are people of true religious feeling, and as members of the Union Church at Metamora, do all they can to advance the spiritual interests of the community.

REV. J. G. ZINSER. It is always a pleasant sight to witness the happy old age of those who have lived pure and spotless lives, and who wait patiently for the call of the Master to cease from their labors. With them, though they rest after the labors of life, yet their works do follow them. They are remembered for years after their death, as representing

the noblest and best of earth. Such an one was the Rev. J. G. Zinser, who sleeps peacefully after the tumult of life, from which he passed Oct. 1, 1883. He was doomed to much suffering before his soul was freed from its tenement home, being for three years prior to his death totally blind, and not able to witness the changing scenes around him, or the faces of friends and children so devoted to him. He anxiously awaited his final rest with a feeling expressed by the prophet Isaiah, "Return unto me. I have redeemed thee."

During the greater part of a long life Dr. Zinser was a minister of the Gospel, and belonged to the Evangelical Association, in whose interests he accomplished much good. He was a logical, fluent speaker, able to hold the attention of an intelligent audience for a long time, and to sow seed in their hearts which bore abundant harvests. Not only was he a power in the pulpit, but in his pastoral work he was always kind, sympathetic and gentle. He was ever ready to sacrifice his interests for the good of others, and to contribute of his substance to succor the needy.

While a resident of Pennsylvania Mr. Zinser became of age, and about that time began to preach. Although young at the time, he was enabled to accomplish much good both in that State and afterward when he removed West to Pickaway County, Ohio. In the latter place he built up a church, which was live, energetic, and consisted of a large, influential membership. In March, 1869, he located near El Paso City, where he purchased 200 acres of land. But he did not desist from his efforts to spread the Kingdom of Christ. He continued until his death a hard, earnest worker in the Association, and was probably the last of that noble band of pioneers of the Evangelical Association, whose heroic labors extended from ocean to ocean, and from the haunts of the savages to the highest civilization of the East. Under the most discouraging circumstances and untold self-denials, they established the cause of Christ, and spread the word of God.

Mr. Zinser was a native of Gaertingen, Wurtemburg, and was born Nov. 28, 1806, being thus at the time of his death only a few weeks less than seventy-seven years of age. At a very early age he accompanied his parents to America, settling with them in New York City. After remaining there several years they removed to Pennsylvania, where our subject grew to manhood. At the time they settled in that State, only a few cabins stood where now are large cities and pleasant villages. Here Mr. Zinser grew to manhood, and assisted his father in the cares of the farm. He again accompanied his parents to Pickaway County, Ohio, when they became residents of that county in 1837, and there remained until 1869, as before stated, when he sought the new West, making his home in El Paso Township, on section 9, where the remainder of his life was passed and where his death occurred.

The faithful assistant of Mr. Zinser in all his labors, and his comforter in trouble, was his noble wife. She was in her youth Miss Rebecca, daughter of Abraham and Barbara (Smith) Ferner. She was born in Somerset County, Pa., Nov. 25, 1817, and there grew to womanhood and was married. Her parents, like herself, were natives of Somerset County, Pa., being of German ancestry and parentage. The greater part of their lives was spent in Pennsylvania, where Mr. Ferner was a farmer, but later in life they removed to make their home in Pickaway County, Ohio. In that county they lived until their death, the father dying at the age of sixty-three years; but his wife survived him many years, and died at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. They had been consistent members of the Evangelical Church, as were also their children, of whom they had seven, three daughters and four sons. Mrs. Zinser was the fourth child in order of birth, and lived under the parental homestead until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Zinser were the parents of nine children, but three have preceded their remaining parent to rest. These are: Sarah, who died in the spring time of life, when a maiden of twenty years; Sophia, the wife of Noah Dondore, died at the age of twenty-eight years; and Ezra, who died at the age of one year. Those who remain are as follows: Abraham, a farmer in El Paso Township, and whose wife was formerly Miss Mary Measey; Isaac, who married Miss Louisa Snearer, and lives in Cleveland, Ohio, where he is engaged in the printing business; Jacob, who was united in marriage with Miss Tina Wilkinson, and is a resident of Juniata,

D. H. Davison

Neb.; Levi, who became the husband of Miss Sarah Meyers, and clerks in a store in El Paso; Joel, who manages the home farm, where he and his wife formerly Martha Tobias, make their home; and George, who also lives with his mother. The family usually attend the services of the Evangelical Association, while politically, the sons, as well as their father, have always maintained the principles of the Republican party.

Our subject was the son of Solomon Zinser, who was also a native of Wurtemburg, and by trade a tailor. He married a lady who was a native of the same province as himself, and who was in youth Miss Catherine Worldboldt. In 1817 the parents took their four children and their most important worldly possessions with them, and removed to the New World. Several weeks were consumed in the passage across the ocean and upon their arrival the father began work at his trade. This he followed during the remainder of a long life, and at his death left his children the example of honesty and noble deeds. Both he and his wife lived to be past three score and ten years, and were objects of constant affection and solicitude on the part of their children, who felt that to them they owed all that was pure and good in their life-records.

DANIEL H. DAVISON, an expert mathematician and surveyor, is one of the pioneers of 1857, at which date he settled on the northeast quarter of section 10, Clayton Township, where he still resides and divides his attention between farming and surveying. He is a New Yorker by birth, having opened his eyes to the light of day May 25, 1826, in Grafton, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., being a son of Daniel P. M. and Melinda (Maxon) Davison, who were natives of the same county as their son. The Davisons are descendants of Nicholas Davison, who was born in England in 1611, and came to Charleston, Mass., as early as 1639, as the agent of Matthew Craddock, a merchant of London, and the first nominal governor of Massachusetts. The grandfather of our subject, Ezra D. Davison, was a hero of the Revolutionary War, and in that terrible conflict he was encouraged by the example of his father, Asa Davison, who also served gallantly throughout the war. Asa Davison not only served his country in its war for independence, but was engaged with the brave colonists in their struggle against the French and Indians, throughout the long period of those troublesome wars. The grandfather of our subject was reared in New York State on his father's homestead, but was born in Nova Scotia, whither his parents had removed from Preston, Conn., the birth place of the great-grandfather of our subject. The Davisons are not only of heroic blood, but are generous, upright, intelligent and persevering. They are simple and unostentatious in their manner of living, and as a result of their temperate habits are generally long-lived.

The father of our subject was one of eight sons to grow to manhood. There were also two daughters in the family. His early training and education were secured on his father's farm, but when a young man of sixteen or seventeen he was apprenticed to a carpenter, and served the full term of his apprenticeship, studying in his odd hours the principles of building, especially taking great delight in all mathematical calculations. His marriage and death both took place in his native county, the latter occurring Jan. 8, 1844, when he was about forty years of age. Five children were left to the care of his widow. Their names were: Daniel H., Almon A., Reuben S., Ezra M., and Louisa. Almon makes his home in Manito, Ill.; Reuben S. is now a resident of Saratoga Springs, N. Y.; Ezra M. was a member of the 77th Illinois Infantry, and contracted disease during his long service, which caused his death, in Minonk Township, about 1876; Louisa was united in marriage at her parents' home with Mr. William A. Parks.

The mother of our subject was again united in marriage, taking for her second husband John Armsberry. Being left a widow again, she removed to Illinois, in the year 1856, making her home with her son, the subject of this sketch, where she resided until death claimed her for his own, Aug. 30, 1871, being then in her sixty-fifth year.

Our subject grew to manhood in the Empire State, and while still a resident of that State married Miss Louisa A. Bly. Mrs. Davison was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., March 26, 1829, being a daughter of Joseph and Mary M. Bly. Our subject became the owner of the old homestead, which was originally owned and improved by his great-grandfather, and which had been in the possession of the family from that time until our subject sold out in 1855. He then turned his attention to topographical surveying and teaching, for which he was well fitted, having received a good, common-school education, and having improved his spare moments in becoming versed in the general news of the day. He taught school a term or two, thus securing means to attend the State Normal School at Albany. There he was making excellent progress, but was obliged to leave before graduating, owing to the misfortune of the family homestead being burned to the ground. Our subject, being the oldest of the family, was obliged to assist in rebuilding and furnishing the necessary comforts for his widowed mother and the younger members of the family. Although he failed to receive his diploma, he was granted a State certificate to teach, and followed that profession in the winter, occupying himself throughout the summer in surveying. He became highly proficient in both professions. His surveying tours took him to Maine, where his operations extended through two counties. He was also employed in Massachusetts, and in three counties in Pennsylvania, making a topographical survey of five townships in Erie County, thirteen townships in Bradford County, and all of Franklin County.

In 1857 Mr. Davison came to Illinois, bringing the little money that he had saved with him, and invested it in eighty acres of raw prairie land. The possession of this purchase was disputed by the previous residents—a den of wolves that occupied the site on which his residence now stands. He bought the land from the railroad company, paying $16 per acre. Mr. Davison had come from a poor section of country in New York, and thought when he became the owner of eighty acres of rich Illinois land he would be satisfied. He went cheerfully to work, and after wresting the land from the possession of his unwelcome neighbors—the wolves— improved it gradually, adding fences, buildings, etc., until he was quite comfortably situated. The three winters following his advent in Illinois he taught school, employing the summer months principally in surveying. The money he saved after paying expenses was invested in more land, forty acres being the first amount he added to his original purchase of eighty acres. He has now a fine large farm of 360 acres, which is well watered and improved, and is second to none in the county. An artesian well on his place supplies an abundance of pure cold water, which is not only sufficient for its owner's uses, but a few years ago when a coal shaft located near his place was deprived of water, they secured all that was necessary for the use of the mines by hauling it from his wells. His surveying expeditions have been numerous and extensive, covering operations in Woodford and adjoining counties. He was on the commission appointed to survey Hudson Township, McLean County, and also resurveyed Milan Township, MaconCounty, this State. His accurate knowledge of the subject is so well known that he is frequently called as a witness in contested cases of boundary lines. He also does the surveying for all the mines in this part of the State, and was County Surveyor of Woodford County for eighteen years. His surveys when subjected to the decision of the court have been approved in every instance.

Mr. and Mrs. Davison became the parents of nine children: Ada C., wife of Charles Taylor, a resident of Edgar, Clay Co., Neb: Mary M. died in childhood; Joseph A. is a photographer at Polo, Ill.; Daniel M., of Bloomington, Ill.; William A. resides in Minonk; Cyrus E. lives in Clayton Township; Minnie A. is the wife of Dr. Fred Wilcox, of Minonk; Dexter H. and Oris M. are at home.

Politically, Mr. Davison is a stanch and true Democrat, and besides filling the office of County Surveyor, he officiated as Superintendent of Schools when in New York State. He is a member of Robert Morris Lodge No. 247, A. F. & A. M. Mr. Davison has taken a great interest in mathematics, many of his problems having been published throughout the United States and Canada. He

has composed many problems and theorems, and has written many articles pertaining to that subject, sending his contributions principally to the *School Visitor of Ohio*, which receives contributions from many of the first mathematicians in the United States. In addition to the fine estate on which Mr. Davison and his interesting family make their home, he also owns considerable property in Polo, Ill.

No doubt the youthful mathematicians of the land will be pleased to see the portrait of the distinguished gentleman, which accompanies this biography.

HENRY BIEBES is an industrious and prosperous farmer and general stock-raiser of Woodford County, having been a resident of his present farm since the year 1863. His farm is well stocked and pleasantly located on section 13, of El Paso Township. He dates his residence in this county from the year 1858, and in this township since 1862, while he first came to this State in 1856. The two years preceding his settlement in this county, he made his home in Stephenson County, Ill., where he had emigrated from Somerset County, Pa.

Mr. Biebes was born in Baden, Germany, May 16, 1833. He is the son of Jacob and Margaret (Ritter) Biebes, both natives of Baden, where they were reared and married. The father, Jacob Biebes, was a German soldier, and served his country with all the patriotism of a true, devoted citizen, but after some years of service he was disabled, and so was compelled to leave service. Then he obtained an office, in which position he faithfully performed all the duties required of him, but was after a time, through no fault of his own, removed from this place, which had supported himself and his family and kept the wolf of poverty and want from the door. He could not obtain employment, and became discouraged and disheartened. About this time America had commenced to offer a new home to thousands of foreigners, who removed to the new field of industry thus opened to their eager eyes. Instead of being crowded in poor tenement houses into which the light of day seldom peeped, they could go to this new country, and their children could grow to manhood and womanhood under the healthy influences of pure air, plenty of sunlight, and nourishing, sustaining food. Mr. Jacob Biebes was not slow to grasp the inducements thus offered, and in 1835 brought his family to America, and settled in Somerset County, Pa. This was his permanent home, but not his first location, as the two years succeeding his arrival were passed in Cambria County, Pa. The parents lived and died in this new home they had made across the ocean, the father dying when about eighty years of age, but his wife passed to her rest in 1879, being also about eighty years old. They had been during their long lifetime faithful members of the Lutheran Church, contributing liberally of their means to the maintenance of the church in their vicinity. They had ten children, five sons and five daughters.

Henry Biebes, the subject of this biograpical record, was the sixth in order of birth of the children born to his father and mother, and was only two years of age when his parents removed to the United States. The days of his boyhood and youth passed quickly in his new home in Somerset County, and there he learned to assist in whatever was to be done. He lived to be a man in his home there, and after becoming of age, came to Illinois. Thus early in life he began to lay the foundations of his present comfortable property.

The wife of Mr. Biebes, to whom he was united in marriage Sept. 22, 1859, was in youth Miss Emma, daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Zorn) Flamm. She is a native of Somerset County, Pa., and was born in 1835. Her father is now deceased, having passed to his final rest in Grundy County, Ill., when he was quite old. He had been born in Germany, but when he had reached years of maturity, came to the United States, and met and married his wife in Somerset County, Pa. She was a native of Berlin, that county. Her parents were also natives of Pennsylvania. She has reached the advanced age of seventy-nine years, and resides in Morris, Grundy Co., Ill. Mrs. Biebes has made

her home in Illinois since 1856, and is the mother of five children, namely: Margaret, wife of Thomas Sutton, and a resident of Palestine Township; Linford, Ephraim, Horace and William. The latter all remain at home. Mr. and Mrs. Biebes stand well in the community in which they have resided for so many years, and number their friends by the score in their own immediate neighborhood. Mr. Biebes is a prominent member of the Republican party in Woodford County, but has never desired public office.

ALFRED PICKARD is classed among the worthy citizens of the village of Minonk, where he is living in retirement in one of its most desirable homes, enjoying a handsome income, the fruit of well-directed labor and judicious investments. He was for several years actively identified with the agricultural interests of Woodford County, owning and operating a farm in this township, which was in all its appointments comparable with the best in the vicinity.

Mr. Pickard is of English birth and antecedents. He was born in Southwick, Wiltshire, England, Sept. 9, 1817, being a son of George and Fanny (Kaets) Pickard, who were natives of the same village as himself. In early life our subject exhibited quite a talent for drawing, and later he put it to use by becoming a designer of fine woolens manufactured in the English mills, and he was engaged in designing cloth for two companies for a period of fourteen years, being employed by the two firms of Messrs. Shepard & Co. and William and John Stancomb & Co. He subsequently turned his attention to mercantile pursuits and engaged in Southwick keeping store during the remainder of his stay in England. He is next the youngest of twelve children, and the only one now living, although the others grew up and married. In 1865, accompanied by his wife and nine children, Mr. Pickard came to the United States, having resolved to invest some of his money here and to try life as a farmer on the rich soil of the Prairie State. He located near Minonk, within half a mile of the village, on a farm that he purchased after his arrival in Woodford County. In the following years he made a vast number of improvements, placing the land under excellent cultivation, and erecting suitable, well-built and conveniently arranged buildings, and otherwise greatly increasing the the value of the place over its original cost. He made his home thereon eight years, and then abandoned agriculture, and moving into Minonk, has since lived a retired life, surrounded by all the comforts and luxuries that heart could wish. Among other property that he owns, are eight substantially built houses in Minonk, from the rental of which he gains a handsome income.

Mr. Pickard was twice married. His first marriage, which occurred Dec. 25, 1839, was to Miss Sophia Bartlett, a native of Trowbridge, England, where she was born in 1819. This faithful wife walked by his side nearly thirty-four years, crossing the waters with him to assist him in founding a new home in a strange land, and here she passed away in October, 1873. She was the mother of twelve children, eleven of whom grew to maturity, but two of them have since died—Ellen Sophia and James Alfred, a younger brother now bearing the name of the latter. The names of the others are Tom, a resident of Minonk; Job, who still lives in England, he having returned to his native land after a visit of ten months in the United States, as he did not like this country; George is in Gage County, Neb.; Joseph is in Minonk; Jane is the wife of Samuel Lockwood, Hopeville, Iowa; Anna wife John Vilvan, and lives near Pontiac; Edward a resident of Thomas County, Kan.; Alma, (Mrs. Ridge) died Aug. 8, 1889, resided in Minonk township; Louise wife of Mark Kucker. In November, 1876 Mr. Pickard was again married, Miss Rebecca S. Lambert becoming his wife. She was born in Boston, Mass., Feb. 7, 1845, and is the daughter of Henry and Mary V. Lambert, likewise natives of Boston.

Mr. and Mrs. Pickard are people of high social standing in this community, and their pleasant home is the seat of genuine hospitality, as all feel who cross its threshold. They are connected with the Baptist Church, of which Mr. Pickard has been

a consistent member since 1858, and has also been Deacon. He is a man of true religious feeling, of earnest purpose and high moral principles. He has borne an unsullied reputation throughout a long and busy life, and in regard to his credit and reliability it is said of him that "his word is his bond."

REV. CHRISTIAN REESER, resides on a fine farm of 230 acres on section 3, Montgomery Township, where he is engaged in the occupation of general-farming and stock-raising, and, which has been his home since 1857. Since locating on this place he has worked diligently, practicing a wise economy, and, being possessed of shrewd good sense, has made money rapidly and brought his farm under fine cultivation. The location of his farm was an excellent one for the purpose of stock-raising, being situated on both sides of the Mackinaw. He also owns another farm of 160 acres, well located, in Arkansas.

Mr. Reeser is a native of Lorraine, Germany, but which at the time of his birth was a portion of France. He was born in September, 1819, being a son of French and German parents. The father of Mr. Reeser was John, a Frenchman, a native of Lorraine, where he followed agricultural pursuits. While a soldier in France he met, and afterward married a German lady, who was born and reared in Germany. John Reeser was a brave French soldier, who had left the plow to shoulder the musket, gallantly helping to sustain the reputation of his country for brilliant service in battle. He died while comparatively a young man at his home in Lorraine, being thirty-five years of age. His widow subsequently came to the United States and established herself in Indiana, at which place she was laid to rest at the age of sixty years. She and her husband both died in full hope of a glorious immortality, having been members during life of the old Mennonite Church.

Our subject was reared in France. His education was conducted in the French language, but as is usual in those border provinces, he also learned to speak German. He was about twenty years old and single when he came to America with his mother in 1839, his marriage taking place some years after in 1852 in Delaware County, Ind., where he took Miss Barbara Zimmerman for a life partner. Mrs. Reeser was born in Baden, Germany, in 1830, and came to the United States with her parents, who located on a farm in Delaware County, Ind., where they resided until released from earth's trials at a good old age. They were good, industrious, intelligent and religious people, being worthy members of the old school Mennonite Church. Mrs. Reeser was a fine, pleasant young woman when she came with her parents to America, and was not long in this country before she met her fate in the person of the young farmer, who afterward became her husband.

Mr. Reeser came to Montgomery Township from Delaware County, Ind , where he had resided on a farm of his own for about ten years. Previous to his residence in Indiana, at which place his mother died, he had lived in Butler County, Ohio, for eight years, that being the place in which he located when first coming to the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Reeser had a family of thirteen children, one of whom, Andrew died when an infant of three months. Those now living are John, the oldest of the family, who married Phœbe Miller and makes his home in the village of Danvers, McLean County, this State, where he follows the occupation of a machine agent; Anna, wife of David Ulrich, resides on a farm in Roanoke Township; Joseph married Miss Emma Baker, and lives on a farm in this township; Christian J. married Miss Dora Housholder, and lives on a farm of his own in Roanoke Township; Fanny, wife of Samuel Ulrich resides on a farm by her father-in-law, near Eureka; Barbara, wife of Benjamin Ummel, resides on a farm in McLean County near Bloomington; Jacob A. makes his home in Arkansas, and follows the profession of an engineer; Samuel and Lena E. are the best educated of the family, so far; Benjamin E., David and Peter are at home. Lena E. is the youngest of the girls, and Peter the youngest of the family. All the children have received a good practical education, and have

been encouraged in acquiring good habits, and are now self-supporting. They are bright, intelligent, shrewd in making a bargain, but kind to those in distress, hospitable to strangers, good home keepers, every one of the family being members of the Omish Church, Mr. Reeser, being a minister therein for over thirty years. He takes very little part in politics, but has held some local offices and endeavors to vote at each election according as his conscience and intelligence prompt him.

The great number of years, which have elapsed since Mr. Reeser's first connection with the honest brethren of the Omish Church, together with his excellent character and well-known integrity in all business matters, have contributed to make him not only a valued citizen but a highly respected member of the Omish community, and he has held the position of a minister amongst them for some years.

HENRY M. ROBINSON, who resides on section 7, Montgomery Township, is the owner of one of the finest stock farms in Central Illinois. His entire life has been passed in this county, and since attaining his majority he has followed the business in which he is now engaged. He is also one of the most extensive land holders of this section, his possessions aggregating 2,000 acres, the greater part of which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. The home farm, one of the best in the county, is especially adapted to the raising of stock. A living spring furnishes an abundant supply of water, and well-kept groves protect his cattle from the burning heat of summer. Upon his farm may always be found about 500 head of cattle, together with a large number of horses and hogs, and his annual shipments amount to more than those of any other man in this part of the State. He possesses good business ability, is judicious and methodical, and has therefore made his life a success.

Our subject is descended from one of the prominent Scottish families. One of his ancestors, to whom the line of descent is directly traced, served his country as a soldier, and was noted for his bravery and daring conduct on the field of battle. He was killed at the famous battle of Culloden, leaving to his family an honored name. His son, Benjamin Robinson, was the founder of the family in America, and emigrated from his native land to this country in the early Colonial days, becoming a resident of West Virginia. In Clarksburg, that State, he opened the first store ever established west of the Allegheny Mountains, and for some years did a flourishing business at that place. In 1800 he removed to Ohio and purchased 4,000 acres of land in Coshocton County, in the Muskingum River Valley, that being the smallest amount the Government would sell. His was one of the first settlements made in Central Ohio, and on the farm which he developed in that wild region he made his home until his death. In Virginia he had married a Miss Flemming, and several children were born of their union.

One of their number, Col. James Robinson, was the grandfather of our subject. He was born in Clarksburg, W. Va., in 1786, and when fourteen years of age went with the family to Coshocton County, Ohio. He succeeded to the estate on the death of his father, and on the old homestead passed his entire life. He completed the work of developing the large tract of land, divided it into good farms, erected all necessary buildings and made many other improvements. He also lived to see the entire country around him transformed into beautiful farms and homes, and settled by an intelligent and energetic people. He won his title as colonel in the War of 1812, in which he served under Gen. Harrison. He participated in many of the important engagements of that struggle, and fought bravely in the battle of the Thames. He was well and favorably known, not only in the immediate vicinity of his home but for miles around throughout the country, and was a prominent and influential citizen. For some years he served as Probate Judge of Coshocton County, and held other positions of honor and trust.

Col. Robinson was twice married, his first union being with Rebecca Wood, who died at the age of twenty-six years, leaving two children, Raymond, and Henry M., father of our subject, both of whom

are now deceased. He afterward married Phœbe Letts, who survived her husband a number of years and died at an advaneed age. Seven children were born to them, but nearly all of the family are now deceased. The Colonel and both wives were members of the Methodist Chureh. He died on the old homestead in Coshoeton County in 1853, at the age of sixty-eight years.

Henry M. Robinson, Sr., was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, on the 13th day of June, 1814, and was reared to manhood on his father's farm. His edueation was reeeived in the log sehool-house, so eommon at that day. He remained under the parental roof until twenty-four years of age, when he set out to try his fortune in the West, and eame to Illinois, reaching Woodford County in 1838. After loeating some land in Montgomery Township, he eontinued his journey to Iowa, where he spent one year, engaged in buying and selling real estate until 1840, when he again eame to this eounty, and settled on the farm whieh he had previously purchased. From that time until his death he eontinued to make his home in Montgomery Township, and was numbered among its honored pioneers and prominent citizens. In 1842 he wedded Miss Nancy Allison, a native of Ohio, who eame with her parents to this eountry at an early day, and died Sept. 7, 1848, leaving four ehildren, two of whom have sinee died. James E. is now a resident of Eureka, and Mrs. Rebeeea H. Chaffer is still living in Washington, Va.

The seeond marriage of Mr. Robinson was eelebrated in Muskingum County, when Miss Mary Little beeame his wife. She was born in New Jersey Jan. 14, 1815, and when but a year old was taken by her parents to Ohio, where she remained until her marriage. After the wedding festivities Mr. Robinson and his bride started for their western home. They made the journey in a lumber-wagon from Muskingum County, Ohio, to Woodford County, Ill., camping along the wayside to cook their meals and spend the night. At length they reaehed their destination, and from that time their lives were connected with the history of this eommunity.

Mr. Robinson was one of the best-known men in the county. Wherever he went his gentlemanly deportment, affable manners and kindness of heart won him many friends, whose eonfidenee and high regard he retained till the last. He was one of the leading farmers of the county, and eultivated and improved nearly 2,000 aeres of land. He possessed many exeellent business qualifieations, was methodieal, systematie and very sueeessful in all his undertakings. He died at his home Jan. 26, 1886, and was mourned by all who knew him. Another of the pioneers was called home, but he will be long remembered, for his life is inseparable from the history of the county, in whose progress and development he bore so prominent a part. In politics he supported the Republican party from its organization, and religiously, embraeed the faith of the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Robinson still survives her husband and is living with her sister, Mrs. Cornwell, in Washington, Ill. She is a faithful member of the Baptist Chureh, and is now (1889) seventy-five years of age. Two ehildren were born to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson—Henry M., of this sketch, and a daughter, Mrs. Martha L. Pifer, of Eureka, Ill.

Our subjeet was born on the farm where he still makes his home, April 14, 1854, and there was reared to manhood; while in the distriet sehools of the neighborhood he reeeived his primary edueation, whieh was supplemented by a eourse in Eureka College. At an early age he became interested in eattle raising, and determined to make that business his life work, with what suecess we have previously seen. He is eonsidered the best judge of stoek in the eounty, and his adviee and opinion is often solicited by those who wish to purehase eattle. In 1885 he made a trip to Ohio, and in Cambridge, that State, was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary F. Broom, a native of Cambridge, born in the year 1854. He then returned with his bride to his home in this eounty, and they began their domestie life upon the farm in Montgomery Township, but after a few short years had passed Mrs. Robinson was ealled home. She died on the 20th day of February, 1888, leaving oue ehild, Eulalia.

Mr. Robinson was again married on the 13th of June, 1889, when Miss Aliee C. Nixon beeame his wife, the wedding taking plaee at St. Paris, Ohio. The lady was born in Taylor County, W. Va., Sept. 20,

1865, and is a daughter of Robert and Catherine (Hayhust) Nixon. Her parents were married and have since resided in Taylor County, where the husband is engaged in farming.

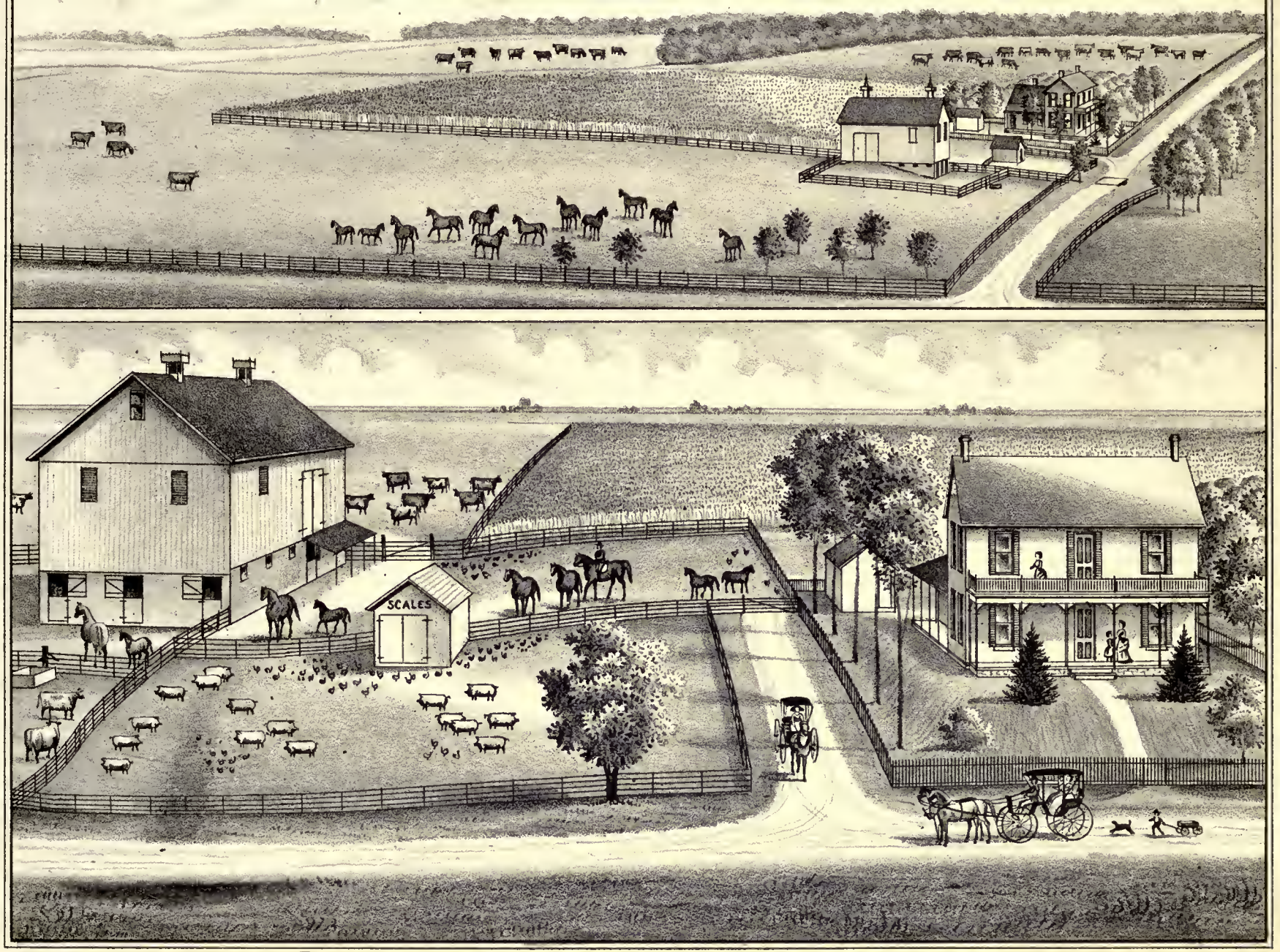
As a citizen Mr. Robinson is public spirited and progressive, and by his influence and financial support has aided largely in the advancement of those enterprises which are for the benefit of the community. In politics he is a Republican, having supported that party since attaining his majority. Mrs. Robinson is a member of the Baptist Church, and is a lady of high social attainments, intelligent, gracious and kind-hearted. She was liberally educated, at St. Paris and Granville, Ohio, and a few years before her marriage engaged in teaching, in which she met with uniform success.

As one among the most beautiful residences of Woodford County, we are pleased to present on another page a fine engraving of the home of Mr. Robinson and his wife, where they welcome and charmingly entertain their many friends.

RICHARD O. COLBURN, one of the extensive land-owners and honored pioneers of Woodford County, residing on section 18, Palestine Township, has been prominently identified with the history of this community since 1842. He has shared in the trials and hardships inevitable to those who make homes in new and unsettled districts, has witnessed the growth and progress of the county, and has materially aided in its development and advancement. He is recognized as one of the prosperous and substantial farmers of Palestine Township, and is well and favorably known throughout the county.

Mr. Colburn was born in Richland County, Ohio, Oct. 14, 1836, and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Phelps) Colburn. On the paternal side the family is of Irish descent. The father was a native of Grafton, N. H., and was the fourth in a family of six children born to Eben and Elizabeth (Burbick) Colburn. Eben Colburn was born in Ireland, but in childhood crossed the Atlantic to America, becoming a resident of New Hampshire, where he was reared to manhood. On reaching years of maturity he was united in marriage to the lady of his choice, also a native of the Emerald Isle. He passed his entire life in the Granite State, and is numbered among the early settlers of Grafton County. He made farming his life occupation, and long before planters had been invented, he cleared the land, cut the timber down and then planted two acres of wheat with a common hoe. He was an enterprising industrious man and by his untiring efforts secured a comfortable competency, but by going security for those who pretended to be his friends, he lost nearly his entire possessions and was in limited circumstances at the time of his death. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church, and passed to their final rest in Grafton County, N. H., at an advanced age. They were highly respected people and few citizens of the community had more friends. The children born of their union were as follows: Eben, Abigail, Benjamin, John, Albert and Mary J. All grew to manhood and womanhood, were married and reared families.

John Colburn, father of our subject, passed the days of his boyhood and youth in his native county. He married Miss Elizabeth Phelps, whose early life was also passed in Grafton County, and who was descended from an old New England family. The young couple began their domestic life in Grafton County, where Mr. Colburn worked at his trade of stone-cutting, and their two children were born unto them. Later, they removed thence to Albany, N. Y., where the family circle was increased by the birth of two more children, and subsequently, they became residents of Richland County, Ohio, settling near Bellville, where the birth of our subject occurred. The family continued to make their home in the Buckeye State for several years, but in an early period of the history of this State they came hither, settling in Perry County; there they resided until 1842, which year witnessed their arrival in Woodford County. A short time afterward Mr. Colburn purchased land on what is now the east half of the southeast quarter of section 25, Palestine Township, and turned his attention to farming, which he carried on in



RESIDENCE OF R. O. COLBURN, SEC. 18. PALESTINE TOWNSHIP.

connection with work at his trade. The excitement, novelty and wildness of frontier life seemed to present great attractions to Mr. Colburn, and again he resumed his westward journey, this time locating in Greenwood County, Kansas, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-two years. His excellent wife afterward became a resident of Tazewell County, Ill., where she died in 1885, in the seventy-fourth year of her age. This worthy couple were members of the Christian Church.

Our subject was the fifth of a family of nine children; three sons and six daughters, of whom four, he, and three sisters, are yet living. All are now married and have families of their own. Since his sixth year Mr. Colburn has been a resident of Woodford County. He was reared to manhood within its borders, and in the public schools of the neighborhood received his education. Throughout his life he has followed the occupation of farming, and is one of the extensive land-owners of the county. The land on which he makes his home is situated on section 18, Palestine Township, and the entire tract is under a high state of cultivation. He is a practical and progressive farmer and displays good business ability and sound judgment in his investments. He now owns 1000 acres of land, which he has acquired by his own efforts and his industrious life might well be taken as an example by young men, who, having but limited capital with which to begin life's battle, are dependent almost entirely upon their own exertions and resources.

As an illustration of the perseverance and industry of Mr. Colburn it will be interesting to the readers to learn how he procured his first horse. At the age of thirteen years he hired out to work for a neighbor during the summer, for which the latter was to cultivate five acres of corn. The corn was given by our subject to his father for mill feed, and was fed to some shoats. These and a calf were sold and a colt purchased with the proceeds, but it left the lad $3 in debt. To raise this money he worked an entire month for a relative near Peoria. The following summer he bought a one-horse wagon, and cultivated a five acre field near Bowling Green. By this time his colt had grown to be a fine, large horse, and he forthwith traded it for two colts, paying a slight difference. Later, he exchanged the colts for two yoke of oxen, and added to this collection another yoke of unbroken steers, which he trained. With them he began breaking prairie, being engaged in this pursuit for the ensuing six years from the 1st of May until the middle of July or the 1st of August, and for the rest of the season was employed in threshing. In the spring of 1859 he bought eighty acres of land from the proceeds of the sale of his oxen the autumn before, and to this has added until his farm has attained its present goodly proportions. So as the "little drops of water make the rivulets, then grow to rivers, and finally swell into mighty seas and oceans," thus prudent economy has brought its usual reward to our subject, and the little with which he started in life's battles has grown to a comfortable property.

Mr. Colburn was married in Palestine Township, the lady of his choice being Miss Jane Manor, who was born in Lucas County, Ohio, July 30, 1840, and is a daughter of Peter and Minerva (Richardson) Manor. Both parents have now passed away, their eyes resting for the last time upon the scenes of earth in Lucas County. They left a family of four children, of whom Mrs. Colburn is the eldest. She was twelve years of age when she came to Illinois to make her home with her uncle, James M. Richardson of this county, and here she became acquainted with Mr. Colburn. Nine children have been born of their union—William the eldest, married Emma Ziems, and is now engaged in farming in Palestine Township. The other children—Mary, John, Rosalia, Cary, Geneva, Cecil, Lenona and Byron, are still at home. The parents have spared neither labor or expense in providing their children with liberal educational advantages, thereby fitting them for the practical duties of life. Cary, Mary and Rosalia attended the Normal University at Normal, Ill. Rosalia is a highly esteemed and efficient teacher in the public schools at El Paso.

The Colburn household is noted for its hospitality and the many friends of the family are sure of a hearty welcome. They attend the Christian Church, and by all who know them are held in the highest regard. In political sentiment, Mr. Colburn is a

Demoerat, and a representative eitizen of the eommunity. He feels a just pride in the progress and prosperity of the eounty in whieh he has so long made his home, and in whose upbuilding and advaneement he has born no ineonsiderable part. As an honored pioneer and upright man, he is well deserving of a representation in this volume, and it is with pleasure that we reeord his sketeh.

A lithographie engraving of Mr. Colburn's home appears elsewhere in this volume.

JAMES MILTON DAVISON, son of a prominent pioneer family of Tazewell County, and a native of that part of Illinois, born in Groveland, April 18, 1846, is now one of the most eonspieuous of the energetie and sueeessful farmers and stoek-raisers of Woodford County, who have had a hand in plaeing her among the first eounties of the State as a great agrieultural center, and he is among the foremost in sustaining her prosperity. He resides on seetion 2, Linn Township, where he owns a large and finely-improved farm, and he is besides conneeted with the farming interests of two other counties in this State, Livingston and McLean, owning valuable farms in eaeh.

Our subjeet eomes of an old New York family, and represents good stoek. His father, Squire Rowland Davison, was born in Grafton, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., a son of Ezra Davison, a native of the same State, and a son of one, Asa Davison, who is supposed to have been born in that commonwealth. The latter was a soldier in the Indian War and also took part in the Revolution, as did his son Asa, the grandfather of our subjeet. His two grandfathers spent their last years in Grafton. The father of our subjeet learned and followed the trade of a mason some years in his native State. He first visited Illinois in 1835, making his way on foot to Buffalo, where he embarked on a boat to take the voyage on the lakes to Chieago, and from that then small village he proeeeded on foot to Tazewell County, for the purpose of seeing his brother, who had loeated there, and of making a elaim to some land if he liked the eountry. There were but few settlements there at that time, and searely any improvements had been made looking toward a more advaneed state of eivilization. The land was owned by the Government, and after seleeting a tract in Groveland, Mr. Davison left the money with his brother to enter it as soon it eame in the market. He then returned to his old home in New York State, and worked steadily at his trade the ensuing two years to obtain the necessary funds to enable him to loeate on his land and eommenee its improvement. In 1837, with his wife and two ehildren, he then started on the tedious journey for the Prairie State, traveling this time with a team, and camping and cooking by the way whenever they desired. After his arrival he built a log eabin on his land, and in that rude abode our subjeet was born. There were no railways in the State for many years, and for a long time Peoria, several miles away, was his nearest market. He improved his land, lived on it until 1856, and then sold it, and eoming to Linn Township, bought 240 acres of wild prairie land. This part of the county at that time was but little improved, and deer were to be seen on the prairies. He was a resident here till his death, whieh oeeurred in 1867. He had been very sueeessful as a farmer, and had accumulated much valuable property, ineluding upwards of 700 aeres of choice farming land. The maiden name of the mother of our subjeet was Amanda M. West. She was born in the same county as her husband, and spent her last years with her children in Montana. Six of the children born of her marriage are still living: Ezra D. is a resident of Idaho; Diadama L. married Enoeh Nye, and they live in Montana; Asa L. lives in Montana; Sarah M. married David Ritenour, and they live in Montana; Mary A. married George Ritenour, and they live in Montana.

The subject of this biographieal sketeh was a lad of ten years when he aeeompanied his parents to this county. He assisted his father on the farm in his youthful days, and attending the distriet sehool, he gained the preliminaries of a liberal education, whieh was further advanced by a fine course of study at Shurtleff College, Alton, in whieh institution of learning he was a student three years.

He lived with his parents until after his father's death. He has always devoted himself to farming and stock-raising, for which he has a peculiar aptitude, and he has met with extraordinary success in his calling. His farm is well-stocked, and he has as fine a herd of thoroughbreds as is to be seen in the township. His home farm comprises 320 acres of land under perfect cultivation, and provided with all the modern improvements and conveniences. He has besides, a 160-acre farm two and one-half miles from Pontiac, in Livingston County, and another of the same size in Martin Township, McLean County.

Mr. Davison and Miss Louise E. Scriven were united in marriage Sept. 2, 1870, and six children have been born to them: Alice I., Sarah M., Ida B., James E., Squire Rowland and Le Roy. Mrs. Davison was born in New York, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Scriven.

A man of Mr. Davison's education and personal endowments naturally has weight and influence in the public life of the township, and his fellow-citizens have gladly availed themselves of his counsel and wisdom in carrying out schemes for local improvement, and for advancing the educational interests of the community, and he has been the incumbent of several responsible offices, as those of Township Treasurer, Township Trustee, Assessor, Collector, Road Commissioner, School Director, and Justice of the Peace, and in each and all of these positions he has done his duty with an eye single to the public good. In him the Republican party finds a fearless and outspoken champion. Religiously, he and his wife hold to the Baptist faith, and are members in high standing in that church.

ADAM KIEF. No nationality on the face of the earth has made itself more sensibly felt in most all portions of the globe, than that emanating from the Fatherland. Especially has this been observable in the growth and development of America generally, and the broad prairies of Illinois were first opened up to a large extent by the perseverance, thrift and prudence of the German element. They brought to this country those qualities of character greatly needed, and have proven themselves to be the most reliable and substantial citizens coming from a foreign shore. Among those who have signalized themselves as the promoters of the best interests of Woodford County, locating in Olio Township, may be properly mentioned the subject of this notice.

We find Adam Kief comfortably situated on a well-tilled farm of 160 acres, occupying a portion of section 33. The substantial buildings, the goodly assortment of live stock, and the farm machinery which has successfully cultivated a soil naturally productive, are ample evidence of the character of the proprietor. A self-made man, he was thrown upon his own resources early in life, and deserves great credit for the position which he occupies today, socially, and financially. He was born near Heidelberg, May 24, 1830, and, although fifty-nine years old, is still strong and vigorous and good for many years to come.

Mr. Kief grew to manhood in his native place, and remained there until a young man of twenty-two years. Then not satisfied with his condition, or his prospects, he resolved to cross the Atlantic, and seek his fortunes in a new country. Landing in the city of New Orleans, he made his way to Pekin, this State, via the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, and accompanied by his parents and the balance of their family. He was a resident of Tazewell County six or seven years thereafter, engaged in agricultural pursuits, and on the 18th of August, 1856, was married to Miss Elizabeth Baker. The newly wedded pair began the journey of life together on a rented farm. After eleven years of renting, he purchased his present farm about 1869. By their industry and economy they have built up for themselves a valuable homestead, while their influence over their children and those around them, has been such that their names will be held in honor long after they have departed hence.

To Mr. and Mrs. Kief, there have been born seven children, viz: Peter, John, Catherine, Willie, Daniel, Lizzie, and Anna. Peter and Catherine died young. The other children remain at home with their parents, except John, who has arrived at

his majority, and is working for himself. The children form a most interesting group, being trained to habits of industry, and those principles which will make of them honest and honored citizens. Mrs. Kief is the daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Baker, who were natives of Germany, and spent their last years in Olio Township. Mrs. Kief is also a native of the Fatherland, and was born Jan. 8, 1836. She came to America with her parents in 1851, when a maiden of fifteen years. Both she and her husband are members in good standing of the Evangelical Church. Mr. Kief, in addition to to general agriculture, is largely engaged in stock-raising, in which industry he has been highly successful. He is numbered among the solid and substantial residents of Olio Township, and materially increases the internal revenue of the county by paying into its treasury annually a snug sum in the way of taxes. This fact places him upon record as one of the substantial property holders of his township.

Rudolph Kief, the father of our subject, lived less than a year after coming to America, and the mother was taken away by death the year following. They were the parents of fifteen children, seven of whom are living.

JOHN P. SLYTER. The Eureka *Progress* is rightly named, and has received an especial impetus since coming into the hands of its present editor and proprietor, the subject of this notice. The *Progress* was established in 1886, and in August, 1887, the office and material was leased by our subject, who conducted it successfully until the spring of 1888, when he purchased the entire outfit. The paper then had but a comparatively small circulation, but under its present management its subscription list has been largely increased—in fact, more than doubled—and it is thoroughly appreciated by the people along the central part of the State. Mr. Slyter takes pride in his work, and as a journalist keeps himself thoroughly posted upon those subjects most likely to be of interest to his readers. He is a man of decided talent as a writer, while his business abilities are such as will continue the *Progress* upon a sound footing financially.

Mr. Slyter is a native of Illinois, having been born in Gardner, Grundy County, May 24, 1857. When he was but a child of two years old, his parents removed to Woodford County, where he lived until a youth of fifteen years, and then entered the office of Emanuel Lowry, with whom he remained fifteen months, and obtained his first knowledge of the printing business. A part of this time was spent in Gibson, Ill., and upon leaving Mr. Lowry, he entered the office of the *Sentinel*, at Metamora, where he remained four or five years.

Later Mr. Slyter was employed in different offices at El Paso, Peoria, and Minonk, and in August, 1887, he leased the printing office of F. M. Bolt, who was then proprietor of the *Progress*, which paper and job department he managed with such success financially, that he was encouraged to assume its proprietorship. The paper was then a five-column sheet, enjoying but very little advertising patronage. It is now a six-column folio, with its advertising space enlarged, and the balance well filled with local and general news, and miscellaneous matter. It is admirably adapted to the requirements of its readers, and its subscription list is rapidly increasing in Eureka and the surrounding towns.

Mr. Slyter and his little family occupy a snug home in the western part of the city, which is the frequent resort of its cultivated and intelligent people. The presiding genius of his home, was formerly Miss Jennie L. Nichols, and they were married July 22, 1883. Mrs. Slyter was born Jan. 28, 1857, in Groveland, Ill., and is the daughter of John Nichols, of Tazewell County, this State. Mrs. Slyter, at the time of her marriage, was Deputy Postmistress of Metamora. Of her union with our subject there have been born two children, Roy L., and Pluma F. Both Mr. and Mrs. Slyter are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are popular in the social circles of their community.

The parents of our subject were DeWitt C. and Susannah (Stewart) Slyter, the former a native of

New York State, and the latter of Ohio. After their marriage they settled in Grundy County, Ill., whence they removed to Woodford County, in 1859, settling at Eureka, where, with the exception of two years spent at Metamora, they have since lived. They had a family of seven children, four of whom are living, and residents of Eureka. The family is well-known and highly respected.

JOHN POLHEMUS, now deceased, was a prominent farmer of Palestine Township, and is well worthy of representation in the permanent record of Woodford County's pioneer settlers and honored citizens. He was born on the 26th day of May, 1831, in Clark County, near Yellow Springs, Ohio, and was a son of John Polhemus, Sr., a farmer of the Buckeye State, who died in Clark County at a ripe old age.

The subject of this sketch was reared to farm life and in the public schools of the community where he made his home, received his education. On arriving at man's estate, he led to the marriage altar Miss Emeline Miller, the ceremony taking place in Butler County. Mrs. Polhemus was born in Union Township, that county, on the 15th day of February, 1830, and is a daughter of John and Margaret Miller. Her mother had been married prior to her union with Mr. Miller. Her maiden name was Margaret Baxter, and at her first marriage she became Mrs. Cummings. When she united her destiny with that of Mr. Miller, they located upon a farm in Union Township, Butler County, where the death of the father occurred in 1852, at the age of sixty-five years, his wife surviving until Nov. 8, 1866, when she too was called to her final rest at the age of seventy years.

Mr. and Mrs. Polhemus also began their domestic life in Butler County, where was born unto them one child. In 1854, bidding good-by to their home in the Buckeye State, they traveled Westward until reaching Woodford County, Ill., where they located. For two years they made their home on a farm in Palestine Township, when they removed to Olio Township, where they spent the succeeding four years. At the expiration of that time they became residents of Secor, where Mr. Polhemus passed the remainder of his life. On the 25th day of July, 1867, an awful storm raged, the house was struck by lightning and he was instantly killed. At his death the community lost one of its best citizens, his neighbors a kind and accommodating friend, and his family a tender and loving husband and father. He had many friends, but few, if any, enemies, and his loss was sincerely mourned. He had been one of the prominent citizens of Secor, was one of its enterprising and successful business men, and always did what he could to advance its best interests.

Mrs. Polhemus still survives her loved husband, and is now making her home with her son, who resides on a farm near Secor. She was the mother of three children, two of whom are yet living:—Sarah M., the eldest, is the wife of C. A. Brown, a carpenter of Colfax, Ill., and unto them has been born one child, Jessie; W. Ross, who was born and reared in Palestine Township, is now engaged in farming on section 6, that township, where he owns seventy acres of well improved land. He was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Maggie Gish, and they are now the parents of two children—Lydia E., and Roy G. He is numbered among the energetic and industrious young farmers of the community, is an efficient and capable manager and possesses good business ability. Like his father, he supports the Democratic party, and feels a deep interest in political affairs. Mary O., the youngest, became the wife of J. A. Jones, now of Kansas, and died at the age of nineteen years.

JAMES PADIN. There are many Irish at present residing in Woodford County, and among them this gentleman is held in the highest respect, as representing the best elements of their nationality. Not only has he many friends among those of his own nation, but is esteemed by all who know him, whatever may

be their nativity. He possesses a large amount of historieal knowledge and is publie-spirted, intelligent, and interested in whatever tends to promote the eounty and elevate the eondition of soeiety. He has been an extensive traveler and has visited many lands, but has apparently not found the wife of his ehoiee, at any rate he keeps baehelor's hall, in a seemingly eontented and satisfied manner. But, althoughwith him the gulf stream of youth is flowing toward the arctie regions of age, yet he ever preserves the geniality and warm-heartedness whieh charaeterized him in earlier years. He is a man of sterling worth, whose word is believed to "nail the subjeet to the wall". He has been an interested, intelligent reader, and has always kept himself posted on the general topies of the day, and this, in eonnection with his extensive traveling, has contributed to his share of knowledge,so that now he is the possessor of mueh valuable information, the result of his own study. His early education was neeessarily limited, and most of it was obtained under the immediate instruction of his father, who ever sought to train his son for future usefulness.

Mr. Padin was presumably born in September, 1829, and the land of his birth was the Emerald Isle. Here he passed the days of boyhood and youth, but when he had attained the age of about eighteen years he eoncluded to emigrate to Ameriea, whieh was believed to eontain an "Aladdin's lamp" or a "Fortunatus' purse." Although the extravagant ideas then held about this eountry have all been dissipated before stern reality, yet Mr. Padin has considered this change of his a very happy one. Instead of being the owner of only a few yards of ground, as he would have been in Ireland, he now owns eighty aeres of land, which he has been the means of bringing to a high state of cultivation, and redeeming from a wet, raw, and even swampy wilderness. When he left his native island he took passage from the port of Liverpool on an Ameriean sailing-vessel, the " Andrew Foster," of the Red Star line. Then an oeean voyage, was very different from what it now is. We regard it as a pleasure trip of a few days, and expect to be within reaeh and sight of land after a passage of ten days at most in erossing the Atlantie. Certainly Ameriea has just reason to be proud of Robert Fulton, to whom the honor of the invention of steamers is due, and his little journey up the Hudson River in 1812, was the most important trip ever made sinee the diseovery of Ameriea. At the time Mr. Padin eame over to the United States he was compelled to spend over two months on the oeean, and it was with pleasure that the voyagers finally saw land in the distanee, and at last were safely anehored in New York City. Mr. Padin did not immediately seek the great and growing West, but labored at various oeeupations for many years. It was in 1868 that he settled on the farm whieh is now his home, and whieh is pleasantly loeated on seetion 25 in Panola Township. He bought 160 acres of land, which he has ehanged to its present eultivated appearance. He now owns eighty aeres of land, having sold one-half of his original purehase. All his property he has aeeumulated by his own industry, as he had no one to start him in life. He is a prominent Republiean in his adopted home, and is ever true to party ties. He is also identified with the Catholic Chureh, and is a liberal supporter of that religion, both in the way of finaneial aid and in all other means of aeeomplishing good. He has watched with interest the gradual growth of the eountry, and with pride ean point to his share in the good result obtained. Surely sueh worthy eitizens are deserving of being perpetuated in their names and works through the pages of this ALBUM.

JOHN J. TJADEN is one of the extensive farmers and stoek raisers of Woodford County, and oeeupies a prominent plaee among the leading agrieulturists of Linn Township, whose highest interests he is thus subserving. He owns one of the largest farms in this part of the eounty, whose broad, smiling fields yield him abundant harvests in due season, and in its rieh pastures graze fine herds of eattle and horses.

Our subject is the son of the well-known Jacob and Maria Tjaden (of whom see sketeh on another page in this volume). He was born in the Prov-

ince of Hanover, Germany, Aug. 18, 1846, and was in his tenth year when his parents brought him to Ameriea, and his life has sinee been passed in Illinois. He remembers attending sehool in Germany, where he gained the basis of his edueation, eompleting it in the public schools of Woodford County, where he was reared to man's estate and has passed the most of his life. As soon as he was large enough, he began to work on his father's farm, and from him gained a sound, practical knowlege of the best methods of carrying on farming. He made his home with his parents until his marriage, when he established one of his own, settling at that time on his present farm. His sueeess as a stoek raiser and general farmer has been great. Inheriting the sagacity, far-sighted forethought, and large round-about.common sense so eharacteristie of his father, together with industrious, methodical habits, he has worked to a purpose, and has aecumulated a valuable property. His farm comprises 587 acres of land of surpassing fertility, on which he has erected a neat and substantial set of buildings, including a commodious brick house and large frame barns, and has it well stocked with Short-horn cattle of excellent grade.

Mareh 11, 1873, the marriage of our subject to Miss Tjaka Reuben, was consumated, and mnch of his success in life has been brought about by her eneouragement and eo-operation. They beeame the parents of six ehildren: Mena, Geske, Jaeob, Catherine, Charlie, Tena. Geske, the seeond child, died at the age of six years, and Jacob, the third child, died when four months old. Mrs. Tjaden is, like her husband, of Hanoverian birth. Her paternal grandfather, George Reuben, was a lifelong resident of Hanover, and her father, Claus Reuben, was also a native of that German Provinee, where he carried on farming until his emigration to the United States in 1872, with his wife and two ehildren. He settled in Linn Township, and still resides there.

Though of foreign birth and anteeedents Mr. Tjaden was reared under American institutions, and the United States has no more loyal or law-abiding eitizen than he, or one who more heartily approves of the Republican form of Government. In his ealling he has displayed more than ordinary eapacity for intelligent and skillful farming, and his labors have been erowned with remarkable sueeess while he is yet in life's prime, as may be seen by a perusal of this brief biographieal review. Religiously, the Lutheran Church has in him a valued member. In polities, the Democratie party finds in him an intelligent supporter of its poliey.

SAMUEL T. CURTISS, one of the leading merchant tailors of El Paso, established himself in business at this point in 1864 and since that time, although not aceumulating any great amount of wealth, has been fairly sueeessful and is acknowledged to be a genuine artist in his line. He has with the exeeption of a few years (during whieh he was obliged to abandon it on aeeount of ill health) followed the trade sinee 1844, whieh he learned in Binghampton, N. Y., where he began serving his apprentieeship when a youth of fourteen years. This was his native town and he was born Dee. 4, 1830. He obtained his early education in the city sehools and reeeived excellent home training from his parents Bela C., and Persis (Seoville) Curtiss. They were natives of Massaehusetts and after coming to the West the father located in Galesburg,Knox County,this State, where his deeease took place. The wife and mother died in El Paso about 1882. To the parents of our subjeet there were born nine ehildren, five of whom are living, the others died in ehildhood. While a resident of Henry, Ill., he made the acquaintanee of Miss Mary K. Skinkle, to whom he was married in Chicago, Ill., in 1858. This lady was born, reared and educated near Hudson, N. Y., and followed teaehing prior to her marriage. She eame West and attended school at Kenosha, Wis., and then went to look after the domestie affairs of J. I. Skinkle, a hardware merehant at Henry, Ill., and now deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss there were born three ehildren, the eldest of whom, George R., is one of the editors and proprietors of the El Paso *Journal*, and represented elsewhere in this work. Cora B.,

and Chester F. remain at home with their parents. The young lady is more than ordinarily intelligent and capable, and the boy is one in which his parents may take pardonable pride. Mrs. Curtiss is a highly esteemed lady, and belongs to the Episcopal Church. Mr. Curtiss cast his first Presidential vote for Fremont, and uniformly gives his support to the Republican party. He has been the privileged witness of the wonderful changes occurring in Central Illinois during a period of over forty years and has taken a genuine interest in her growth and prosperity.

JOHN WARD, a respected and substantial farmer and stock raiser, one of the most prominent members of the agricultural community of Panola Township, is rightly classed among the pioneers of Woodford County, though not one of the early comers, and he is today one of the oldest living settlers in this part of the county. He is a native of West Virginia, born in Marshall County, July 17, 1823, a son of William and Margaret (Conkle) Ward, also natives of West Virginia. His paternal ancestors were of Irish birth, while his maternal progenenitors originated in Germany. His parents were quite early settlers of West Virginia, and he was reared on a farm, amid the scenes of pioneer life. He received a limited education in the early subscription schools, attending them for about three months in the winter seasons, generally leaving before their close to assist his father in the labor of managing the farm. He has made up in a considerable degree for the lack of schooling in early life, having read a great deal, and kept himself informed on all subjects of common interest.

The marriage of Mr. Ward with Miss Jane Bryson took place Feb. 17, 1852, and in her he has had an inestimable helpmate, a devoted companion and a true wife. Mrs. Ward was born in Belmont County, Ohio, a daughter of Isaiah and Mary (Neff) Bryson. Her father was of mingled English and Irish blood. He is still living in West Virginia, and is now in the eighty-sixth year of his age. Her mother's parents were of German origin, and they settled in Ohio in the early days of its settlement. Mrs. Ward's paternal grandparents oftentimes had to seek refuge in a fort above Wheeling when pursued by, or in danger of hostile Indians. To Mrs. Ward's parents were born eight children, of whom the following survive: Mrs. Ward; Edward W., a resident of Ohio; Mary E., living in West Virginia, the widow of John Woodburn; Leander, living in Ohio; John A., also a resident of that State; and Indiana, the wife of William Woodburn, of West Virginia. Caroline and Emma are dead. When Mrs. Ward was about fourteen years old, her parents removed to West Virginia, and she was reared to womanhood in that State. Of her marriage with our subject two children have been born, Lemuel, living in Ohio, and Darwin A., in this county.

In 1857 Mr. Ward came from his native State, accompanied by his family, to Illinois, traveling from Moundsville, W. Va., to Peoria, Ill., on a steamboat, the voyage lasting about two weeks. From there our subject came directly to Woodford County, and the first year of his settlement here rented land, and subsequently bought his present farm, which then consisted of 167 acres, the most of which was broken, but there was scarcely any other improvement. He went to work with characteristic energy, and by dint of down-right hard labor has brought it into a fine condition, and it is now one of the best improved farms in his neighborhood. He has been very fortunate in his work, and has greatly increased the acreage of his estate by further purchase from time to time, till it now comprises 346 acres of choice, well-cultivated land, on which are excellent buildings, and all the necessary appliances for carrying on farming properly. Upon his estate he has erected a comfortable, commodious residence, which with the pleasant surroundings is represented in this volume by a lithographic engraving. The place is well stocked with cattle of high grades, and Mr. Ward has a fine lot of full-blooded horses of the celebrated Norman stock. He owes his success in life to his own exertions, as his only capital when he began to make his own way in the world, consisted of a clear

RESIDENCE OF ADAM RIEHL, SEC 8. PALESTINE TOWNSHIP.

RESIDENCE OF JOHN WARD, SEC. 19. PANOLA TOWNSHIP.

brain, sturdy hands, and a stout heart, but by these means and the hearty co-operation of his devoted wife, he has accummulated a goodly amount of this world's goods. He and his wife are true Christians, as is attested by their innumerable kindly deeds, and they were formerly members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he is a Republican. With genuine public spirit, he favors all projects to improve his township or county, and whatsoever will elevate society. As one of the early settlers of Panola Township, he has not only been an interested witness of its growth, but has contributed materially thereto, in which fact he may well take pride.

ADAM RIEHL, a general farmer and stock-raiser of Palestine Township, residing on section 8, was born in Stark County, Ohio, on the 7th day of March, 1845. In that community he was reared and educated, remaining under the parental roof until nineteen years of age, when he left home and began life's battle for himself. He at once came to Woodford County, Ill., where for two years he engaged in farming. In 1866, he enlisted at Peoria, in the United States Regular Army, becoming a member of Company G, 8th Cavalry. He was sent to New York City, and thence by way of the ocean and across the Isthmus of Panama to California, landing in San Francisco. He first did duty on Altacross Island, was afterward stationed at Angel Island, and thence went to Benecia in San Francisco Bay. Subsequently, the regiment was sent to Fort Reding, Cal., and later was transferred to Camp Bidwell in Surprise Valley, where occurred some hard fighting with the Indians in order to protect the white settlement from their ravages. For two years they remained at that camp, when the order came to return to San Francisco, whence they were sent by land to Tucson, Arizona, and were there stationed for some months. While there the order came to capture the Indian desperados who had robbed the Government mail between Camp Buoie and Tucson. They visited the scene of the robbery, where six men had been murdered, but could find no trace of the savages and at length returned to Camp Buoie, doing active service from October, 1869, until the spring of 1870. The men were often sent out on scouting expeditions and during the time succeeded in capturing a number of Indians. Mr. Riehl himself had many narrow escapes and was engaged in various encounters with the foe, his life during the entire time being in imminent danger. In the spring of 1870, the regiment was stationed at Port Selden on the Rio Grande, in New Mexico, where several skirmishes occurred. At the expiration of his term of service, our subject was honorably discharged. For the long period of four years, he was almost constantly engaged and endured many hardships, trials and dangers.

On being mustered out Mr. Riehl was engaged as clerk for a post trader, with whom he remained sixteen months, when he formed a partnership with R. Swan, as a cattle dealer and operated a ranch for some time. They were very successful in the undertaking and did a profitable business, but at length the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Riehl purchased a ranch on the Gila River in New Mexico, where he remained until June, 1886. His service in the army had inured him to such a life, and though many were the perils to be encountered, his experience proved a useful and interesting one. He gained a knowledge of the people of that region, and their manners and customs, which he could have obtained in no other way than by coming in personal contact with them, and in a business point of view, also, that period was invaluable to him. He acquired a handsome competency, notwithstanding the frequent raids made by the Indians, during which they would drive off his horses, mules and cattle in large numbers. It was indeed fortunate that his loss was no greater. He did not suffer personal violence at their hands as did many of his neighbors, who lost their lives in encounters with the savages. On his return to the North in 1887, he located on a farm near where he resided on his arrival in the county twenty-three years before.

While residing in the South, Mr. Riehl was united in marriage with Miss Lucinda Conner, the

wedding taking plaee in Silver City, N. M. The lady is a native of the Lone Star State, her birth having occurred in San Saba County, on the 2d day of January, 1859. Her parents, however, were Northern people, but at an early day removed to Texas, where her father owned a ranch. He afterwards beeame the owner of a ranch in the mountainous section of Grant County, N. M., and while there residing, aeeompanied by his son John, twin brother of Mrs. Riehl, and a Mexican laborer, he went one day for a load of hay, and while on their way some Indians lying in ambush fired at the little party. Both father and son were instantly killed, but the Mexican eseaped with a wound in his arm. Hastening home to the wife and daughter of his employer, he told them to prepare for an attack as the Indians would probably come that way. His own gun was without a ramrod and eonsequently was not of mueh use, but the brave mother made one by whittling off her broom handle to the proper size. The Indians, however, did not make the expected attack and the relief experienced in the little home when it was found that they would not be molested, is better imagined than described. Soon afterwards, Mrs. Conner and her daughter removed to Silver City, N. M.

Since their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Riehl have been very prosperous and are comfortably situated in life. They are parents of five children, three of whom are yet living:—George W., and Francis M., born in New Mexico; and an infant born in this county. John A. and an infant died in New Mexieo. The worthy parents have a pleasant home eonveniently situated about a quarter of a mile from Seeor, and represented on another page by a lithographic engraving. Their farm comprises 320 aeres of highly eultivated land, the barns and outbuildings are models of eonvenienee and many useful and beautiful improvements have been made. In eonneetion with the cultivation of his land, Mr. Riehl also devotes considerable attention to stoek-raising, and his long experienee as a eattle-dealer in the South has made his efforts very successful in that line. As a citizen he is public-spirited and progressive and is recognized as one of the leading residents of Palestine Township. In politics, he supports the Democratie party. He is financially a self-made man, having by his own efforts aequired the handsome property which makes him one of the well-to-do farmers of Woodford County.

LEE S. STRAIGHT. The city affairs of El Paso are presided over in an admirable manner by Mayor Straight, who is one of its most prominent and suceessful business men. He also owns and operates the El Paso Tile and Brick Faetory, which was established by him in the fall of 1883, and has a eapaeity of 15,000 brick and from 3,000 to 7,000 tile per day, according to the size, some of it being three and one-half inches and some twelve inches in diameter. A superior quality of elay is utilized in this faetory from the quarry near, and in the turning out of its products the factory is amply supplied with the most approved modern machinery and the facilities whieh enable the most urgent orders to be filled in a short time. Besides this enterprise Mr. Straight has a similar faetory in Campus, Livingston County, of which he was also one of the founders.

Although still a young man Mr. Straight has spent at least a dozen years in eonnection with the business above mentioned, and with whieh he is familiar in all its details. He began his business career as a manufaeturer of draining and building material with his father at Fairbury, also later, established a faetory at Manhattan in partnership with his brother Willis. He has attained an enviable reputation in this line, and is a self-made man of the first water, one who has labored mostly dependent upon his own resources. A native of Cropsey Township, McLean County, he was born Dec. 22, 1861, and is the son of Rufus and Franeina (Abby) Straight, who were natives respeetively of New York State and Pennsylvania.

The parents of our subject eame to the West prior to their marriage, and the Straight family settled near Cropsey, McLean County, during its pioneer days; afterward they removed to Fairbury, where they spent many years of their lives and

reared a family of children, who are respected by all who know them. The family is largely represented in that region. Mr. Arbey Straight, grandfather of our subject, and his wife are now past eighty years old, and make their home in Fairbury, where they are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church. Rufus, the father of our subject, learned the trade of a carpenter, but only followed it a comparatively short time. After his marriage Rufus Straight settled in Livingston County, where he accumulated a large amount of property, including 700 acres of rich land near the town limits of Fairbury, upon which he built a residence. He is practically retired from active labor, although still able to manage his large farm. Both he and his wife are identified with the Presbyterian Church. First a Whig, then a Republican, Mr. Rufus Straight has always maintained his principles with the natural force of his character.

The parental family consisted of four sons and three daughters, of whom one son and one daughter are deceased. Lee S., the subject of this sketch, first opened his eyes to the light in Crospey Township, McLean County, in 1861, and was quite young when his father removed to Livingston County. He was there reared to man's estate, and was given a practical education in the common schools. Later he attended Bryant & Stratton's Business College in Chicago, from which he was graduated, and then set out to make his own way in the world. Deciding that two heads were better than one, he took unto himself a wife and helpmate Dec. 28, 1882, being married, in Pontiac, to Miss Ida, the accomplished daughter of William and Lucinda (Stanley) Tanner. Mr. and Mrs. Tanner were born in Ohio, but removed with their respective parents to Indiana when quite young. There they grew up and were married. They lived on a farm two years thereafter in Indiana, then coming to Illinois settled in the vicinity of the present site of Pontiac. Here Mr. Tanner built up a good home and gathered around himself and his family all the comforts of life. He was a man greatly respected in his community, and one whose influence was sensibly felt in sustaining its standard of morality. Failing health finally caused him to relinquish the active labors of life and he sought a home in Missouri, in 1870, in the hope of escaping the dread malady, consumption, but which slowly and surely crept upon him, causing his death Sept. 6, 1874. He was then forty-nine years old. He was a man remarkably industrious and temperate, and one who invariably made friends wherever he was.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Tanner returned to Pontiac where she is yet living, being now about sixty years old. She was in all respects the suitable companion of her husband, and enjoys the society of a large number of friends and acquaintances. Of the six children born to her and her husband Mrs. Straight was the second. She was reared under the home roof, and received a good education, being graduated from the Pontiac schools, and later employed herself successfully as a teacher. She presides over the domestic circle with grace and dignity, and displays much taste and cultivation in the home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Straight are regular attendants at the Methodist Church. Mr. Straight is an active, local politician, working for the Republican party, and yet presenting the phenomenon of a man unambitious of office. He was elected to his present position as Mayor by an unusually large majority, and is deservedly popular among the people.

Mrs. Straight is an artist of no mean ability as a portrait painter; her work is in oil and pastel. Mr. Straight owns 480 acres of land in Minnesota, which he is turning into a horse farm. Mr. and Mrs. S. have three children; their names are as follows: Halver Rufus, Fledda Devere, and Gladys Lee.

JOHN KAUFMAN is a native of Richland County, Ohio, where he was born Jan. 20, 1828. His father, Benjamin, and his mother, Susan (Brubaker) Kaufman, were both natives of Lancaster County, Pa. In 1842, when our subject was fourteen years old, the parents and the family removed to Mackinaw, Tazewell Co., Ill., where the father bought an interest in a flour-mill, and began milling on the Mackinaw River. They lived there until 1845, when they removed

to near Washington, Tazewell Co., Ill., where he farmed a year or so, and then rented a mill on the east side of Peoria, where he resided only about two months before his decease. The family then returned to Mackinaw, and our subject engaged in milling. Afterwards they bought a small farm near Washington, Ill.

In the spring of 1854 John Kaufman went to California, via New York and Panama. While on the water on the return trip they were in danger of being shipwrecked, owing to an explosion on board the vessel. On his arrival in California, he engaged in mining, and also operated a bakery and restaurant. While engaged in this business he was burned out, and lost about $2,000. He rebuilt, however, and pursued the business some time longer. Having been very successful during the time he spent in California, he returned to Washington, Ill., or near that city, in the fall of 1860. Making an arrangement to go into business with his brother, he built a suitable block, reserving a portion for his own purposes. In the meantime, the war breaking out, his brother enlisted, and the project was abandoned. Selling his buildings he purchased eighty acres in Cruger Township, where he has since resided, giving his entire attention to agricultural pursuits.

On the 28th of December, 1862, our subject and Miss Susan M. Kice were united in marriage at the bride's home, in Tazewell County, four miles northwest of Washington. Mrs. Kaufman is a native of Tazewell County, having entered this world, Oct. 8, 1838, in that place. Her parents were Henry and Mary (Haybarger) Kice, who were natives of Virginia, the first portion of their married life being spent in that State. Early in the thirties they left their Southern home to carve out their fortune in what was then the Far West, locating in Tazewell County, this State. Here they remained, faithful to all the duties of life, bringing up their children to the best of their ability. Their decease left eight children to mourn their loss and share the hope of meeting them in a fairer world.

Mr. and Mrs. Kaufman have had their family increased by the addition of six children: Ida J. is the wife of A. F. Holmes; Mary H., Frank H., Benjamin J., Charles L., who died when only six years old, and Lola A. Our subject has been Justice of the Peace for about fourteen years; Township Assessor for several years, and School Director, and is at present also one of the School Trustees, which is a proof of the high estimation in which he is held by his neighbors. Mr. Kaufman has always taken an earnest and active interest in political matters, supporting the candidates of the Republican party, to the principles of which party he adheres. He and his amiable wife are devoted and active members of the Christian Church. His property at present embraces 280 acres in Cruger Township, on which he has the necessary buildings. He also owns 120 acres of well-improved land near Parsons, in Kansas. His handsome and commodious house is presided over by the lady who has shared his life and been an inspiration to him in all good works.

ALFRED COMBES, a retired farmer, now living in Washburn, was an early settler of Linn Township, and for several years was connected with its farming interests, and was a factor in its upbuilding. At the time of his settlement there the prairie lands in this part of the county were very sparsely settled. Occasionally a small house could be seen in the distance, but no timber obstructed the view till the eye met the natural forest growth along the streams some miles distant. Deer, wolves, prairie chickens and other kinds of wild game were still plentiful. There were no railways in the county at the time of his location here, and for some years after their introduction, Lacon was the nearest station, and was the market for some years.

Our subject was born in Hampshire County, Va., Dec. 24, 1821. His father, Wooley B. Combes, was, as far as known, a native of Virginia, where he was reared and married. In 1823 he removed to Pickaway County, Ohio, and worked at his trade of a blacksmith a few miles from Circleville till 1848, when he came to Illinois, and, with the exception of four or five years when he resided in McLean County, lived with the subject of this

sketch till his death, in 1862. The maiden name of the mother of the subject of this sketch was Catherine Doman. She died in Pickaway County about 1845. There were nine children born of her marriage, eight of whom were reared to maturity.

He of whom we write being but two years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, has no recollection of his native State. He was bred to agricultural pursuits in Pickaway County, and began life for himself working by the day or month on the farm. He was energetic and a good worker, economically saved his earnings, and was finally enabled to commence farming for himself on rented land. He continued to reside in Ohio till 1848, but land being high and it seeming a rather difficult task for a man to build up a comfortable home there, he concluded to come further west, where he could secure cheaper land, and so made an overland journey to Illinois. After his arrival here he rented land in Fulton County two years, and at the end of that time moved to Marshall County, and rented land there till 1852. He had during this time purchased 170 acres of wild prairie land in Linn Township. In 1852 he built a frame house thereon, and at once entered upon the improvement of the land, and from that time was a resident there till 1888, and in the busy years of toil and hardship that intervened had wrought a great change, had fenced his land, had planted fruit and shade trees, and had erected a neat set of buildings. In the year above mentioned he rented his farm, and, removing to Washburn, built the comfortable, cozy house he now occupies, where he and his wife are living in retirement, enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life.

On the 8th day of January, 1845, Mr. Combes and Miss Betsy Evans were united in the holy bonds of wedlock. She was born in Pickaway County, Ohio. Of her pleasant married life with our subject four children have been born, namely: John W., Phebe J., Gilbert and Frank. The three sons reside in Linn Township, where they are actively engaged in farming. Phebe married Charles L. Younger, and lives in Washburn.

For more than forty years Mr. Combes has been a resident of this county, and though not among its earliest comers, he occupies an honorable place among its pioneers. His integrity and honesty have never been called in question, as he has led a truly Christian life as far as in man lies. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, strong in the faith, and have done their share in its upbuilding. In politics he upholds the principles of the Republican party.

RICHARD SPIRES, one of the best known men of this county and a pioneer thereof, resides on section 24, Minonk Township, in the dwelling erected for him in the year 1856, and since then occupied by his family; (a view of this pleasant home, the scene of the active labors of Mr. Spires and his wife appears on another page of this ALBUM.)

Mr. Spires is of English nativity, having been born in North Hamptonshire, England, Nov. 19, 1839 to James and Sarah Spires. His father was a farmer, following that occupation till his death, which occurred in England some years ago. The mother of our subject is still living in her English home. Our subject was one of a family of nine children, of whom eight grew to maturity—Mary married James Haskett, and lives in London, England; Louisa married James Parkins, and resides in New Zealand, Australasia; Elizabeth married Thomas Savage; after his death she was married a second time to James F. Marshall, and now lives in Morris County, Kan.; Richard our subject; T. P. resides in Kansas; Mary Ann is deceased; Charles P. is a citizen of Chicago, Ill.; George is a resident of Kiowa County, Kan.; and Frederick lives in London, England.

When our subject came to this county in 1856 he was accompanied by his sister, Elizabeth. They remained a short time in Canton, Fulton Co., Ill. and some six months later came to Minonk, where he secured work on the railroad and afterward worked as a farm hand. In 1860, Mr. Spires was married to Miss Martha M. Savage, a daughter of Thomas (deceased) and Elizabeth (Ferrett) Savage.

Mrs. Spires is a native of England, where she was born Oct. 11, 1841 in Cambridgeshire. Mrs. Savage who died in England, left three children—William died in 1862 at Minonk, Ill.; Martha M. was the wife of our subject; John after crossing the ocean in search of a fortune in the New Land was overtaken by the pale messenger from the other world, and was laid to rest in Canton, this State. Mr. Savage was married a second time to Elizabeth Spires, a sister of the subject of this notice. Coming to this country in 1856, he first located at Canton, Ill., and later came with other members of the family to Minonk, where he resided until his death. His second marriage resulted in the birth of two children—George now located in Kansas; and Elizabeth, deceased.

After marriage Mr. Spires rented land in Minonk Township, and engaged in farming. This pursuit he continued to follow until 1856, when he purchased eighty acres of his present homestead. At the time that it came into his possession it was but little improved, and he secured it for $25 an acre. He has lived on this place every since, and now owns 320 acres of land, which is in as fine a state of cultivation as one can see anywhere. Mr. and Mrs. Spires have had ten children, of whom six are living—Sylvester J., Mary, (deceased) Thomas R., Frederick W., George, Mary, Herbert; Henry and Frank are deceased; and Arthur. In politics, Mr. Spires is a Republican. He appreciates the gift of citizenship in this country very highly, and with his earnest, honest nature endeavors to further the interests of his adopted country in every lawful way, believing that good citizens and patriotic sons of America should watch over the affairs of public life not only in national issues, but also in local matters. When called to serve his county he has not refused, but has performed the duties pertaining to the office of Road Commissioner for the last nine years. He has also been School Trustee three years, and School Director many years. He is a member of Robert Morris Lodge, No. 247, A. F. & A. M., and of Minonk Lodge No. 377, I. O. O. F.

Some years ago Mr. Spires left Minonk, and paid a ten weeks' visit to friends in England. On his return he brought with him two of his younger brothers, who are much pleased with this country, and being bright and intelligent lads will no doubt be a credit to themselves and to their brother, who is assisting them to develop into good citizens of this free country. Mr. and Mrs. Spires enjoy the respect and esteem of their neighbors and friends for their many good qualities and generous actions.

C. M. STEPHENSON, who is engaged in general farming on section 20, Greene Township, is a leading citizen of the county and stands very high in the estimation of his business acquaintances and personal friends. There are but two or three who have longer been residents of the township; for since fourteen years of age he has here made his home, and has been prominently identified with the growth and progress of this section of the country.

The Stephenson family is originally of English origin, but at an early day its members, from whom our subject is descended, removed to Scotland. In that country the great-grandfather of Mr. Stephenson became acquainted with a Scotch captain, commander of a sailing-vessel, and, unknown to his family, left for America. He shipped on board the captain's vessel and was borne to the shores of this country, where he passed the remainder of his life. His descendants have settled in various portions of the country, and to one branch of the family C. M., of this sketch, belongs.

Henry Stephenson, father of our subject, was born in Greene County, Pa., and on arriving at man's estate was united in marriage with Miss Mary Myers, who was born in Monongalia County, Va., of German and English parentage. The wedding took place in Greene County, where for a number of years afterward the husband followed the occupation of farming. Five children were born of their union, four of whom are yet living: James A., who now resides in Taylor County, Iowa, where he is engaged in farming and carpentering; Martha A., wife of Stephen Cummins, a farmer and stock-raiser of Marysville, Mo.;

C. M., of this notice; and Orphia, wife of F. M. Miller, a resident farmer of Denton County, Tex.

In 1852, accompanied by his family, Henry Stephenson left his Eastern home and started for the West, taking with him all his worldly possessions. These he loaded on a steamboat at McConn's Ferry, on the Monongahela River, and with his wife and children sailed down the river to Pittsburg, where they were transferred to a larger vessel, which brought them to St. Louis, whence they came up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Spring Bay, in Woodford County, and two weeks later settled in Greene Township. They shared in the trials and hardships incident to pioneer life, and performed the arduous task of developing a farm from the raw prairie, but at length had a good home where before was only a barren waste. The parents continued to reside in this county until called from the busy scenes of this life. The mother died on the 10th day of August, 1874, from the effects of a cancer, at the age of sixty-three years. She was a most estimable lady, dearly beloved by her many friends, and found no task or sacrifice too great to perform which would promote the happiness of her family. Mr. Stephenson survived his wife several years, his death occurring Aug. 29, 1881, when seventy-five years of age. He was a man of quiet and retiring disposition, yet was genial in manner and enjoyed a hearty laugh with his friends. His home was noted for its hospitality, and all who entered its doors were made welcome by the hearty greeting and good cheer which characterized the pioneer home. He did not care to become wealthy, but was content if his family was in comfortable circumstances. He greatly delighted in hunting and was an expert marksman. During the early days of the county many a wolf, fox or deer fell before his rifle, and the wild game which frequently furnished their meals, was brought down by his hand.

C. M. Stephenson, whose name heads this sketch, was, born in Greene County, Pa., on the 2d day of April, 1838, and when fourteen years of age accompanied his parents on their removal to this county, where he has since made his home. The greater part of his education was received at home during the long winter evenings, when, with the other members of the family, he would gather round the fire and con his lessons. On the 8th day of June, 1862, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary C. Livingston, daughter of Louis and Amy (Powell) Livingston, who came to this county in 1840. Mrs. Stephenson is a native of this county, and is the second in order of birth in a large family of children. The domestic life of this worthy couple was begun upon a rented farm, where they made their home for several years, when they purchased land in Greene Township. Since attaining his majority Mr. Stephenson has followed agricultural pursuits, and now owns 225 acres of valuable land, constituting one of the best farms in the county. By good fences, it has been divided into fields. The barns and outbuildings are all that are necessary to a model farm, the home is a tasty and substantial residence and many other excellent improvements have been made.

Four children grace the union of Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson two sons and two daughters: Alice M. attended the State Normal School, and is now engaged in teaching in this county; Louis H. was educated at the State Normal School; Ida I., now a student of the State Normal School, and Reamer.

Mr. Stephenson is one of the leading citizens of the county. He has been often called upon to fill public office, and in every instance has demonstrated to his fellow men that he was worthy of their confidence by the able manner in which he discharged his duties, and the integrity which characterized his career. In both his public and private life he has acquitted himself with honor and well deserves the high regard in which he is held. He is now Secretary of the Roanoke Fire Insurance Association of the county, which was organized April 2, 1875; Joseph Rife, now of Gage County, Neb., J. R. Gish, now of Arkansas, and Mr. Stephenson being the prime movers in the affair. He has since been closely connected with the institution, which has proved of untold benefit to the farmers of the community, and saved them many thousands of dollars. At its organization he was elected director, and at the first regular annual election held in September, 1875, was appointed Secretary and Treasurer by the board of

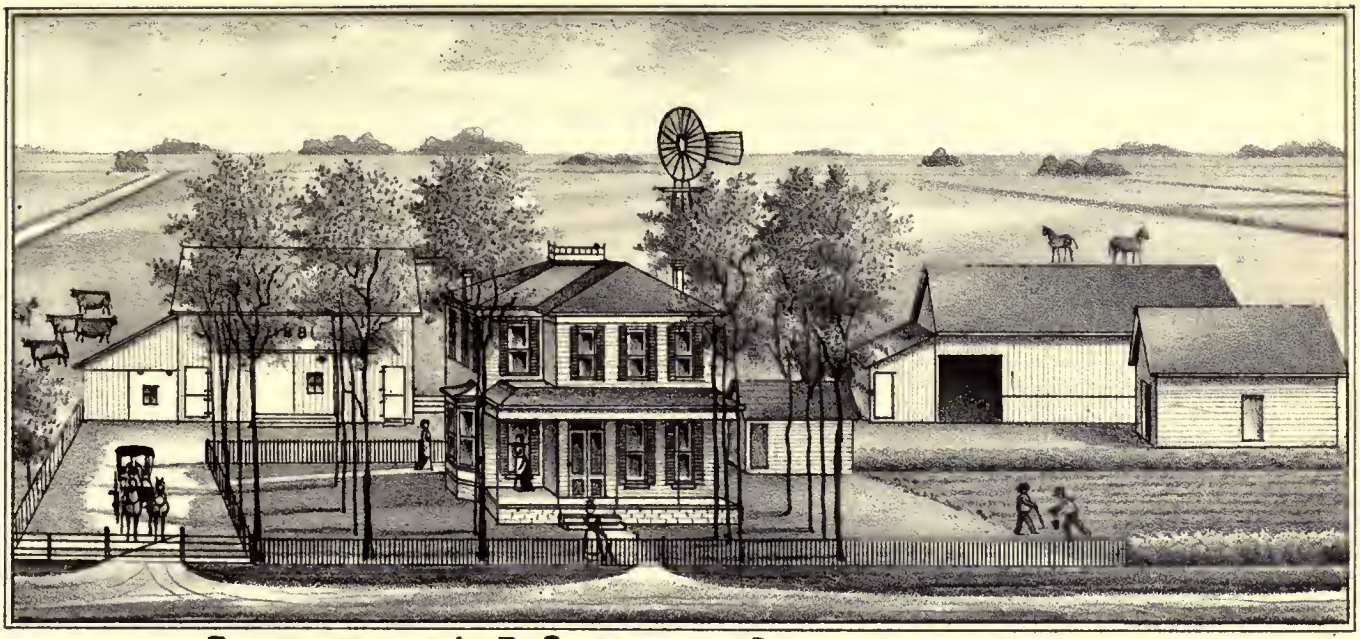
directors, and has since held that responsible position. The institution insures farm property for two-thirds of its value, and has outstanding policies to the amount of $900,000, and 515 policy holders. He has served on both the Grand and Petit juries, for one term was School Director, and for seven years served as Township Clerk, when he refused to further fill that office. For one year he held the position of Collector, was Assessor for five years, and has held the office of Township Treasurer for twenty years. Mr. Stephenson has handled the money of the township without a dollar's loss, and every dollar which has passed through his hands as treasurer of the insurance company has been correctly accounted for. In educational matters he takes a deep interest, and does all in his power to sustain a good school system in the community. He has been connected with several civic societies, was a leading member in the Grange, and held membership in the Masonic lodge of Secor until their building was burned down. For several years past he has also acted as reporter for the bureau of agriculture of the State, and his good judgment and long residence in Woodford County and his great care and accuracy, have rendered his services in that capacity very valuable. In politics, Mr. Stephenson is a supporter of the Democratic party, and he and his wife and daughter Alice, are members of the Christian Church.

EDE WOLTZEN, an honored citizen and prominent farmer of Greene Township, residing on section 5, is a native of Germany. He was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, on the 23d day of June, 1832, and is a son of Johan and Catherine (Sotthoff) Woltzen, who were born in the same community. His father served in the German Army and participated in the battle of Waterloo under the Duke of Wellington. He made farming his principal occupation and followed that pursuit until his emigration to America. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Woltzen were nine in number: Alex died in Germany; our subject; Johan is now residing in Linn Township; Albert makes his home in Roanoke Township; Simon and Henry are both engaged in merchandising in Benson; Rosina died in Illinois; Himke died in Peoria; and another child died in infancy.

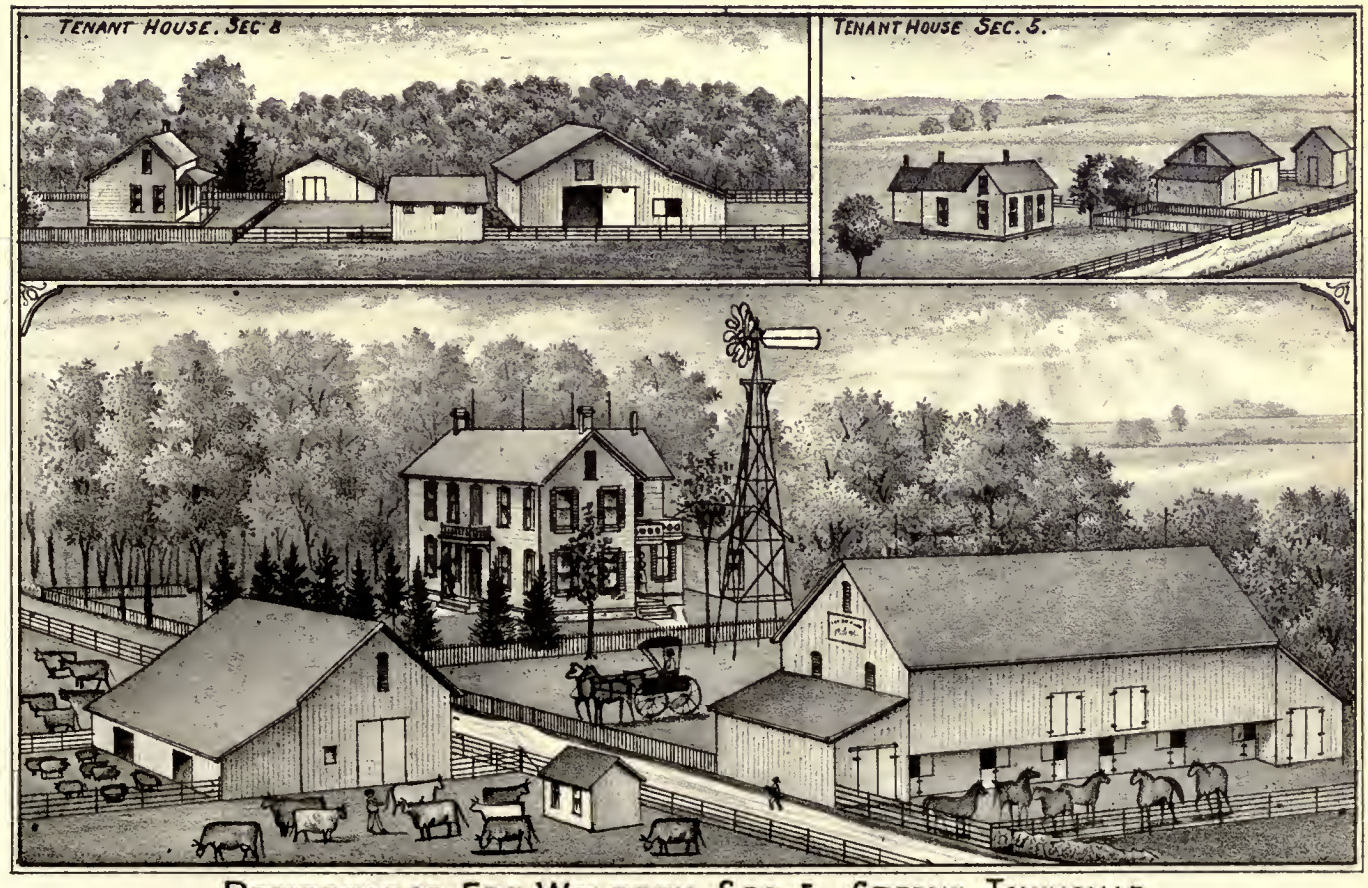
The subject of this sketch passed his childhood days in the land of his birth and was educated in its public schools. His parents were members of the Lutheran Church, and in that faith he was reared, being confirmed at the age of fourteen years. He has since been one of its faithful members and is an active worker in the interests of the organization at El Paso, where he now holds membership. In 1851 the family determined to make America the scene of their future operations. Bidding good-by to home and friends, they went to Bremen, where they embarked in the sailing vessel "Atmund." After several weeks spent upon the broad ocean, the vessel dropped anchor at New Orleans, and they landed on the shores of the country, where they have since resided. Proceeding up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers, they at length reached their destination, Peoria, near which city the father afterwards rented a farm. He lived to enjoy his new home about a year and a half, when he was stricken with lung fever from which he died. His excellent wife survived him many years, dying at the advanced age of eighty-two. She was an earnest Christian woman, and was greatly beloved for her many acts of kindness to the poor and needy.

Mr. Woltzen, whose name heads this sketch, remained with his mother until attaining his majority, when he left home and began life's battle with the world. He determined to follow in the footsteps of his father and so made farming his life occupation. Renting land, he continued its cultivation for a number of years, until by his industry and untiring efforts he had accumulated sufficient capital to purchase a farm.

At the age of twenty-six years Mr. Woltzen led to the marriage altar Miss Gazena Sotthoff, and the union of hearts was consummated by the union of hands. This lady was also a native of Hanover, Germany, and a family of fifteen children were born unto them, only four of whom are now liv-



RESIDENCE OF J. B. SCHWARTZ, SEC. 32. PANOLA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF EDE WOLTZEN, SEC. 5. GREENE TOWNSHIP.

ing:—Johanna, who became the wife of J. Tombs, a merchant of Benson, and is now the mother of four children, Harmon, Gazena, Henry, and Ede; Albert, a well-to-do farmer of Greene Township, married Ella Johnson, and to them have been born two children, Gazena and Lena: Alex and Herman, the two youngest, are yet at home. Mrs. Woltzen died Nov. 25, 1877. Mr. Woltzen was a second time married in 1878, when Miss Theda Harms became his wife. Four children grace their marriage, John, Gazena, Fannie and Harmon.

Mr. Woltzen is a prominent citizen of this county and is truly a self-made man. He is now the heaviest tax payer in Greene Township, and his entire possessions have been acquired by his own exertions. He began life on a rented farm, but has steadily climbed the ladder of success until his efforts have been crowned with prosperity, and he is numbered among the wealthy farmers of central Illinois. Industrious and energetic, he labored on, each year adding to his property as his financial resources were increased until he now owns 630 acres of valuable land, situated on sections 5, 8 and 9, Greene Township. He first bought eighty acres, to that added 120, afterwards purchased forty acres, then again bought a like amount, to which he has since added a tract of twenty acres, another of 180, one of seventy and still another of eighty acres. The trials and adversities which he has encountered seemed not to impede his progress, but acted as an incentive for renewed effort and served as stepping stones to something higher. He is an indefatigable worker, sober, industrious and honest. His sterling worth and strict integrity have won him the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact, and his word is as good as his bond. He has been a citizen of two of the greatest nations on the face of the globe, but though he loves Germany as the land of his birth, his sympathies are all with America, which has long been his home and his pride. She has no more true or loyal citizen or one who is more friendly to her free institutions. Mr. Woltzen is an honor to the German population of this country and to the community in which he lives. In politics, he is a stanch supporter of the Democracy and does what he can to promote its interests and insure its success. None are more worthy of representation in this volume than Ede Woltzen, who is honored and respected by all who know him.

Not only has Mr. Woltzen a fine tract of land, but he has a beautiful residence, wherein peace and plenty reign supreme, and which is represented by a fine view on another page of the ALBUM.

JOSEPH B. SWARTZ, since coming to Woodford County in 1866, has placed himself in the foremost ranks of the wide-awake, well-to-do farmers and stock-raisers who are so skillfully conducting the leading interests of this section of the country. He is a resident of Panola Township, his home being situated on section 32, and is the proprietor of one of the largest and best-managed farms in this region, lying mostly in Panola Township, the remainder being located in El Paso Township and Gridley Township, McLean Co., Ill. His real estate comprises 525 acres.

A native of Fairfield County, Ohio, our subject was born May 8, 1834, to George and Mary (Beery) Swartz, also natives of the Buckeye State. His ancestors on both sides of the house were of German origin, and his paternal grandfather is said to have come to this country when a boy. Both grandfathers became residents of Fairfield County in the opening years of this century, and were numbered among the early pioneers of Ohio. Our subject grew to manhood in his native county under the influences of the pioneer life that prevailed there. Though the educational advantages in the primitive schools of that day were somewhat limited, yet he has managed to acquire considerable learning by reading and otherwise, and is as well-informed as many a man who has had more schooling.

Mr. Swartz was married in Ohio, April 23, 1857, to Miss Barbara E. Keller, and by this union have been born ten children, of whom the following eight are living: Clinton; Clara, wife of W. R. Shuman, of McLean County, Ill.; Melvin, re-

siding in El Paso Township, Ida B., Lucy M., Elsie E., J. Vernon and Ralph B. The deceased were Percy Lincoln and Sherman. Mrs. Swartz was born in Licking County, Ohio, July 8, 1840, a daughter of Abraham and Barbara (Tussing) Keller, who were of German descent. When Mrs. Swarts was ten days old her mother died, and by her aunts she was taken to Fairfield County. When she was about fourteen months old her father departed this life, and she, the only child, was left an orphan when too young to realize her great loss. She was reared in the family of her uncle, Joseph Keller, and was married in Fairfield County. She has made her husband a happy home, and he is indebted to her for her share in brining about his present prosperous circumstances.

In the winter of 1866, Mr. Swartz perceiving the many advantages offered to an intelligent farmer by the agricultural facilities of Woodford County, Ill., resolved to avail himself of such fair opportunities, and come here with his family and build a new home on these broad, beautiful prairies. After his arrival he settled on section 34, Panola Township, and for twenty-three years was busily engaged in improving a farm and tilling the soil on that homestead. At the time of his removal there was a small frame house on the place, but otherwise scarcely any improvements had been attempted. Now the land is under admirable cultivation, and a commodious dwelling has been erected, a view of which appears on another page. A substantial barn and other buildings too have also been built, and there are few, if any, better farms in this part of the county. He owns, all told, 525 acres of excellent land, of which all but eighty acres are in this county. In the spring of 1889 he removed to his present attractive, conveniently fitted up home on section 32, and here he and his wife are passing their lives in the enjoyment of the fruit of their early labors.

Mr. Swartz is a man of high moral principles, of good mental qualifications, and of superior judgment and tact, and his course in life, both in social and domestic relations, has been such as to commend him to the respect and regard of his fellowmen. He has a full appreciation of the privileges of citizenship, and fulfills the duties thereof as becomes a loyal citizen. He has served Panola Township as Road Commissioner nine years, and for a short time was School Trustee of the township. He takes a sensible view of the political questions of the day, and is in hearty accord with the Republican party. He is a consistent temperance man in word and deed, but, although a strong advocate of prohibition, does not favor its introduction into politics. He and his wife are people of sound religious views, she being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while he is connected with the Baptist denomination at El Paso; both unite, however, in working for the social and moral elevation of the community.

ANDERSON VANSCYOC is one of the largest land holders in Woodford County, and is also one of the best known and most successful farmers and stock-raisers in the community. His homestead is finely located on section 28, in Palestine Township, and there he has a beautiful country residence, furnished very cozily and handsomely, while the surroundings indicate the cultured taste of the owner. He came to this county March 5, 1838, and since that date has not only succeeded in becoming independent but has amassed a fortune. When he came to this part of Illinois, it was all known as McLean County, and his father's family settled near where the son, Anderson, has his present farm. There were not more than a dozen families within as many square miles when this became their home, so they selected what they considered the most fertile soil, and there the father bought the claim of William Mitchell, which was an 80-acre piece of land. Later he bought it from the Government when it came into the market. Upon this John Vanscyoc, the father of our subject, lived the remaining portion of the time allotted to him on earth, and there passed away. His farm is yet in the possession of the family. He was one of the best-known pioneers of the county, and was regarded as an intelligent, industrious,

hard-working man, who made every effort possible to leave his family comfortably provided for, seeming to live only to promote the interest of those he loved. His death occurred July 18, 1857, when he had arrived at the age of fifty-nine years and ten months.

John Vanseyoe was born in Virginia, presumably of Dutch ancestry. He was reared in what is now Marshall County, Va., and there married the companion of his pioneer life, Margaret Shepherd, supposed to be a native of the same State as her husband. He began his wedded life in Virginia as a farmer, and to him and his wife three children were born, namely: Kittie, who died near Shelbyville, Ind., when in the springtime of life, having reached the age of eighteen years; Amanda, who became the wife of A. E. Sparks, and now lives in El Paso, and Anderson the subject of this notice.

Our subject was the youngest child in his father's family, and was about thirteen years of age when his parents removed to Shelby County, Ind. He remembers some incidents connected with his boyhood days in that State, where they resided for about three years, and recalls with the vividness of recent occurrence their journey to Woodford County, which was made in true pioneer style with teams and wagons. At night they would stop and a frugal supper would be prepared by the camp fire, and then they would lie down to rest under the broad canopy of heaven. Probably our subject has often thought, as many others have done, that those camp-fire meals were the most delicious, and those nights of rest the most peaceful he has ever experienced. Doubtless the water in the rusty old canteens rivaled in sweetness that from the "old oaken bucket." Two weeks were occupied in their trip, and at last they arrived at the Mackinaw River. The land surrounding this stream was then unmolested by the advancing footsteps of the white man, and was rough and untrodden. Game abounded and the stillness was unbroken save by the occasional report of the hunter's gun, or the songs of birds in the trees on the banks of the river. Soon the neighborhood began to attract other people, and comfortable homes were built at intervals. The nearest market places were Pekin and Peoria, whither the farmers took their grain and in return received their supplies. After a few years of active labor in this community the father of the family was taken from his wife and children, and then the mother continued to live with her son, the subject of our sketch, until her second marriage, which took place a few years later with James Pearson. Being again widowed she continued to reside in the village of Kappa, until her death, March 13, 1878. She had at that time passed fourscore years. She, as well as her husband, Mr. Vanseyoc, was a member of the Methodist Church, and was always endeavoring to train her children to become useful members of society and honorable men and women.

Anderson Vanseyoc was yet in the years of his boyhood when he came with his parents to this county, and here he became of age. When yet in his early manhood he established a home of his own, being united in marriage Dec. 31, 1857, with Miss Mary L. Carr. This estimable young lady was a native of Georgetown, Ind., and was born in the year 1840, and died at her home in Palestine, Oct. 22, 1865, having at the time of her death not yet arrived at the twenty-fifth year of her age. Thus sadly were the family bereaved, for the wife and mother was cut off in her youth, when life seemed fairest and love seemed dearest, and when her family of little children were most in need of an affectionate mother's care. Truly the ways of Providence are mysterious and past finding out. Although young in years at the time of her death, yet we can not measure life by the number of years we have lived, but by what we have accomplished. Mrs. Vanscyoc had endeared herself to all who knew her, and was loved and admired for the strength of character always displayed, even in moments of trial and in the midst of acute physical anguish. Her parents were Abraham and Malctta Carr, natives of Virginia. However, most of their lives were passed in Indiana, until the spring of 1857, when they came to Illinois and resided for some time in Palestine Township. Abraham Carr was a carpenter by trade and met his death while in the pursuit of his usual avocation, being fatally injured by the falling of an ice-house, which he was working on. He was then about sixty years old, and was at the time a resident of Kappa. His

wife had died in the same place about two years prior to the decease of her husband, being at the time of her death less than sixty years of age. Their daughter, Mary L., lived in Indiana until her father and mother came to Illinois, at which time she was sixteen years old. She was married one year later, and died after a few years of wedded happiness, leaving three children living. One child, Charles Edward, had preceded her to rest. The living children of Mr. and Mrs. Vanscyoe are thus enumerated: Margaret M., who married John Davidson, a native of this county, but did not leave the home of her childhood, as her husband helps to farm the home place; John A., who chose as his wife Ida Berger, and now lives on a farm in Palestine Township; William A. who is unmarried and assists in working the large farm of the father.

Mr. Vaescyoe is a man of liberal ideas in matters of religion, and usually votes the Republican ticket. He has been Township Supervisor and held other offices of local importance, giving universal satisfaction in whatever place he is called upon to fill. In addition to the large home farm of nearly 800 acres of fine land Mr. Vanseyoe owns the following farms: In Greene Township 577 acres; in Palestine Township 160 acres on section 20; 120 acres on section 32; 80 acres on section 20; 80 acres on section 26; 26 acres on section 24. In Kansas Township 175 acres. Adjoining Padua, McLean County, 160 acres; in Hudson Township, McLean County, 60 acres. His landed possessions in this and McLean County amount to over 2,200 acres of land.

SOLOMON BELSLY. Among the residents of Spring Bay none are better known or more highly respected than the subject of this sketch, the man whose life-record is thus briefly summarized. He was more fortunate than most of his fellowmen in that he was enabled to commence life with a competency, which had been accumulated by the efforts of his father.

Joseph Belsly, the father of Solomon Belsly, was a native of the Province of Alsace, which is cozily situated among the mountains of France and Germany. Joseph Belsly was born about 1811, and lived in the land of his birth until he had attained to the age of eighteen years. Then, like thousands of poor foreigners, he sought the coveted wealth in the land of the free, and was fortunate enough to gain it. He came to America in company with his uncle, David Schertz. They landed in New York, and thence came to Peoria, Ill., where our subject's father engaged in farming with his uncle. When they first came to Peoria, the now prosperous city was then composed of five frame houses and ten or fifteen log cabins. Mr. Belsly commenced teaming, and worked in that business until he was married, the lady being Miss Barbara Engle, whose parents are supposed to be of the same nativity as those of Mr. Belsly. After his marriage Joseph Belsly commenced farming on rented land, but in the course of a few years he bought a farm partially improved, consisting of forty acres. By continued industry and unremitting perseverance he was the owner of 1,000 acres of improved land, all in Woodford County, at the time of his death in 1879.

To Joseph Belsly and his wife there were born twelve children, of whom seven yet remain, namely, Peter, Christian, Joseph, John, David, Benjamin, and Solomon, our subject. Peter became the husband of Catherine Schertz, a native of this county, and they live in Roanoke Township, where he is engaged in farming; they are the parents of nine children. Christian, the second son, is a druggist in Bellwood, Neb.; Joseph was in former years a farmer, but now lives retired in Peoria with his wife, who was in her youth Miss Hannah Ege, and their two children; Davis is a furniture dealer in Bellwood, Neb., where he has made his home for several years; his wife was formerly Miss Anna Nicholson, a native of Germany. Benjamin is bookkeeper for the Roanoke Mining Company, and resides in that city.

Solomon Belsly chose as the companion of his life Mary E. Hosher, who was born in this county, as was also her father. Her mother was a native of Ireland. Mr. Belsly is a strong Democrat, and his influence has often been felt in party circles. He has held the office of Assessor for the past term,

has also served on the jury, and as School Trustee, and in whatever capacity he has been chosen to act he always does what is expected of his office to the best of his ability, and to the entire satisfaction of the people, who repose the utmost confidence in him.

SAMUEL WYLIE, a pioneer of Woodford County, making his settlement here in 1846, as an extensive grain dealer in Minonk, is now the oldest representative of that business in the city. He is also one of the foremost of the intelligent, enterprising farmers of this section of Illinois, who have been prominent factors in developing its great resources, and in bringing it to its present advanced state as a wealthy and prosperous county. He owns one of the largest and best improved farms in this vicinity, and still superintends the cultivation of 400 acres of it, although he gives his principal attention to his grain business.

Mr. Wylie comes of good Revolutionary stock, and is of New England origin and birth, born among the beautiful green hills and valleys of Vermont, in Orleans County, Nov. 9, 1821, a son of Ephriam and Lucy (Mason) Wylie, natives of Massachusetts. His paternal grandfather, Peter Wylie, was of Scotch-Irish parentage. He was an officer in the Revolutionary War, serving throughout the entire struggle, and was raised to the rank of First Lieutenant for his bravery and daring. He was a farmer by occupation, and reared a family of no less than seven children, and two of his sons, inheriting the patriotic spirit of their sire, were soldiers in the War of 1812. The father of our subject was one of the eldest of the family, and he was married in the State of Vermont, and carried on agriculture there until his death, which occurred in Craftsbury, Orleans County, when he was fifty-four years old. Thus passed away ere the infirmities of old age had come upon him, one who was a useful citizen and a thoroughly honest and upright man, who had inherited the best traits of his ancestry. His wife survived him many years, living to be nearly seventy years old. There were eight children born of their happy wedded life, four of whom grew to manhood: Wyram is a farmer in Craftsbury, Vt.; Samuel is our subject; John died in Craftsbury; Joseph, a farmer and a carpenter, is a resident of Minonk.

Samuel Wylie was bred to the life of a farmer, and resided on the old homestead that was his birthplace until he was twenty-three years old, receiving such school advantages as were offered by the common schools of that day. At the age mentioned he left home and friends, and alone started out in the world to brave the hardships and trials of life on the western frontier in the State of Illinois. He located at Metamora, Woodford County, where he first found employment in a brickyard. But as he was somewhat versed in the carpenter's trade he soon became employed at that, which he pursued for a period of fifteen years, finding steady work in a new country where the pioneers were constantly requiring the aid of a practical, skillful carpenter to assist them in their building schemes, and in that time he built many residences and barns in Woodford County. In 1854 he entered 320 acres of wild land, one mile east of Minonk, and improved the same, breaking it for cultivation in 1855, that being the first prairie land broken for farming purposes in this region. In 1862 he settled on his land and continued to dwell on it until 1884, when he removed to Minonk. In the meantime, as the state of his finances would allow, he judiciously invested in other land near Minonk, until he now has 720 acres of valuable land, all well improved and under excellent cultivation. In 1873 he established his present business as a grain and seed dealer, building a large elevator in that season, with a capacity of 75,000 bushels. He has an extensive trade, and his dealings extend over quite a large territory, and as he possesses marked foresight and shrewdness, combined with prudence, discretion and promptness, his business is carried on safely, and in a manner to make an assured income without fear of failure.

To the amiable wife who presides so happily over his pleasant home, and adds to his comfort and content, Mr. Wylie was married in 1862. Her maiden name was Catherine Davison, and she was

a daughter of Emery and Nancy Davison. She was born in 1818, in Craftsbury, Vt., and came to Illinois with her brother Solomon, who gave up his life for his country while serving as a soldier in the Civil War.

To such men as our subject, who have been instrumental in the upbuilding of Woodford County, and are still active in the support of its agricultural, commercial or other interests, are due the respect and honor of his fellow citizens. His kind, friendly disposition, his unostentatious charitableness, and obliging ways, long ago won him a warm place in the hearts of all who come under his influence, and his wife shares this affection with him. Politically, he is a stanch Republican, standing by his party whatever betides. He has never had any desire for public life, preferring the quietness of his fireside when not attending to his many business interests, to the turmoil of civic life. But, to please his friends, he has occasionally laid aside his personal feelings in regard to the matter, and has accepted local honors, which have, as it were, been thrust upon him.

JOSIAH KERRICK, of the firm of Kerrick & Humphrey, proprietors of the Minonk Rolling Mills, occupies an important place in the business circles of Woodford County. Under the energetic management of himself and partner, the manufacture of flour has become one of the leading industries of this part of Illinois. Our subject is serving with distinction his second term as Mayor of Minonk, and under the wise and far-sighted policy that governs his administration of affairs, the city has entered upon a new era of prosperity, and is flourishing as never before.

Mr. Kerrick is a native of Indiana, born in Franklin County, July 20, 1848, to Armisted and Sarah A. (Sloan) Kerrick. (For parental history see biography of Armisted Kerrick on another page of this work). Our subject was about eight years old when his parents came to Illinois to settle, and he was reared to manhood in this and Marshall County, bred to a farmer's life. His father being a man of means, gave him every advantage to secure a good education, sending him, after he had left the public schools, to Wesleyan University, where he pursued an excellent course of study that well fitted him for his career in after life. Having more of a taste for an active business life than for farming, in 1874 he left the farm, and coming to Minonk, purchased an interest in the Minonk Mills, which were thenceforth conducted under the firm name of C. Dobson & Co. for some years, our subject having the management of the mills while associated with Mr. Dobson. In 1881 he bought his partner's interest in the business, and was sole proprietor of the mills for one year. At the end of that time he admitted Mr. Humphrey into partnership. They have improved the mills, and enlarged their capacity to eighty barrels a day, and they have introduced first-class machinery, and have everything in good shape, and do a large business. Mr. Kerrick has acquired wealth by his enterprise, and owns other valuable property in Minonk.

Mr. Kerrick and Miss Margaret E. Hollenback were united in marriage in 1870, and the four children born of their wedded life complete their pleasant home circle: Eva L., Harrison S., Florence E., Elsie E. Mrs. Kerrick is a native of Woodford County, and a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (McCune) Hollenback.

Mr. Kerrick has long been a conspicuous figure in the public life of this city and county, and no more painstaking or trustworthy man ever held civic office. He has the courage and intelligence to uphold his principles, and he does his whole duty wherever placed or however situated. He was a member of the County Board of Supervisors three years, serving as Chairman of the Board, and he was also Assessor, and has been a member of the Board of Education, and has taken an especial interest in securing good schools for the young. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, although not an offensive partisan. He is distinguished by strong common sense, a clear insight into business, and is quick to determine the expediency and practicability of any measure proposed for the improvement of the city or county,

and is one of the foremost in promoting it if feasible. During his mayoralty the city water works have been put in, and many other beneficial improvements have been introduced. Mr. Kerrick is a prominent member of Minonk Lodge, No. 377, I. O. O. F., and has passed all the chairs.

BENJAMIN F. ZINSER, banker and hardware merchant of Benson, established business in that town in 1874, and is one of its leading merchants and enterprising citizens. He was born in Tazewell County, Ill., Dec. 26, 1851, and is of German descent. His parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (Linder) Zinser. His father was a native of Germany, where his early boyhood days were passed, but when sixteen years of age, in 1818, he crossed the Atlantic and became a resident of the United States. He was accompanied by two brothers, George and Solomon, both of whom are now deceased. The former, a minister of the Evangelical Church, died at his home in El Paso, and Solomon, a farmer, died in Washington, Ill.

When Mr. Zinser determined to try his fortune in the New World, he first located in Philadelphia, where he became acquainted with the lady whom he afterwards married. Accompanied by his family, in 1881 he emigrated to Tazewell County, Ill., settling near Washington, where he purchased eighty acres of land, a half-mile south of the city, and there made his home for about seven years. He afterward resided on a farm northeast of Washington, but in 1864 removed to the city, and thence to Henry County, where he purchased a farm, on which he made his home until 1868, when the death of his wife occurred. He then became a resident of El Paso, and died in that city in 1870. A family of twelve children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Zinser, and are mentioned in the sketch of the parents elsewhere in this work.

Our subject was reared to manhood upon his father's farm, and began his school life in the district schools of the neighborhood where he resided. After completing his rudimentary studies, he then pursued a course in the Northwestern College, taking the higher branches. At the age of seventeen years he started out in life for himself, and in El Paso learned the tinner's trade. He next became a resident of Washington, where he engaged as clerk in a hardware store, afterward serving in that same capacity in El Paso. His labors in that line served as a training school, in which he learned the habits and methods of mercantile life. At different intervals during that time he attended school, until at length he completed his education in the Northwestern College. He has been a resident of Woodford County since 1869, and since 1874 has made his home in Benson. In that year, in partnership with A. Abrahams, he established the first exclusive hardware business in Benson, and the connection was continued until January, 1881, when he bought out his partner's interest, and has since been sole proprietor. The year previous (1880) the firm had established the Benson Bank, of which he also became proprietor when his partner retired from the hardware business. From the beginning he has had a large and flourishing trade. His stock is well assorted, and consists of hardware, stoves, farm machinery, tinware and pumps. He also keeps on hand paints and oils, and all kinds of seeds. As his trade increased and he was necessarily compelled to enlarge his stock, he found his store room insufficient, and in 1885 erected his present building. His banking business is also in a thriving condition, and his bank is considered one of the substantial moneyed institutions of the county.

In 1880 Mr. Zinser was united in marriage with Miss Cora W. Bowlby, daughter of James and Anna Bowlby. The lady is a native of this county, and by their union an interesting family of six children has been born, three sons and three daughters—Florence L., Chester B., Mae, Ralph A., Milton H., and Edith. Mae and Milton H. died in infancy.

Mr. Zinser is one of the leading business men of the county, and is a progressive and enterprising citizen. On beginning life his capital consisted of but $400, but with that sum as a foundation, he

has secured a comfortable competence. Aside from his store building, his stock and bank, he owns several buildings in Benson, and is also connected with various moneyed institutions in the West. He is a stockholder of the National Bank of Kansas City, Mo., the National Bank of Commerce of that city, the Continental National Bank of St. Louis, and also of the Standard Fire Insurance Company of Kansas City, Mo. In political sentiment Mr. Zinser is a Republican, and has served his fellow-citizens as Township Clerk and Village Treasurer. Religiously, he is a member of the Baptist Church. His public and private life are alike above reproach, and he has won the confidence and high regard of all with whom business or pleasure have brought him in contact. His deportment has always been such as to command respect, and by his courteous and kindly manner he has won many friends.

THOMAS S. ELLIS, a large farmer and successful grower and feeder of stock, owns a large farm of 280 acres, which is located on section 14, in Palestine Township. His farm is well improved, having large and commodious buildings, which are kept in good repair, and shelter not only the stock but also various agricultural implements, the use of which makes farming in our day a real pleasure. Eighty acres under a good state of cultivation is located on section 11, but adjoining the rest of the farm on section 14.

Mr. Ellis has lived on this farm for thirty-two years, his father locating on it when our subject was only four years old. He was born June 16, 1852, in Somerset County, N. J.. He is the youngest son of John Ellis, whose biography is given in another part of this book. When his parents removed to Illinois he accompanied them, being about four years of age. He has therefore had considerable experience in pioneer trials and fully appreciates the improvements that have been made in agricultural machinery and methods of operation since his boyhood. While an occupant of his father's house he attended the common schools of the district, but wishing to secure a better education than they were in a position to give, he left home to attend the graded schools in Naples, Ill., where he pursued his studies with diligence and enthusiasm and secured a good academic education. Shortly after returning home he was married to Miss Laura Billenger at the bride's home in Palestine, Township in 1873. Mrs. Ellis is a daughter of William and Sarah Billenger, and was born in Ohio in 1849, on the 14th of January. She accompanied her family to Illinois, being then a young girl. They located in Bloomington and remained there for some years, subsequently moving to Palestine Township, where they now reside. Mrs Ellis attended a good graded school, pursuing a full course of studies, and finishing with honor to herself and credit to her teachers. After leaving school she engaged in the profession of teaching which she followed for sometime before her marriage. She is an intelligent, thoughtful, kind-hearted woman, and has been a true helpmate to her husband. After marriage both Mr. and Mrs. Ellis took up their abode in the Ellis homestead, where they have since resided, and which has been in their full possession for the last ten years.

Mr. Ellis gives his attention principally to cattle and stock breeding, keeping good blooded animals on the farm, buying judiciously when necessary, and selling or withholding from sale as the market demands. He has been very successful in his business transactions and is now comfortably well-off. He is the father of two children—John T. and Ralph G., aged respectively twelve and six years. Politically he is a sound Republican, but has never taken any active part in political affairs.

SALATHIEL HALLOM operates as a farmer and stock-raiser in Olio Township, of which he has been a resident since 1862. His native place was in Clinton County, Ohio, where his birth occurred Jan. 16, 1833. His father was Charles Hallom, a native of Washington

Peter Schertz

County, Pa., whence he removed to Ohio, then to Bureau County, Ill., and later to Marshall County, this State. In 1856, he took up his abode in Eureka, where he died in 1879. The mother is still living at an advanced age.

Mr. Hallom was sixteen years old when coming to Illinois, and afterward lived in Bureau, Marshall and Livingston counties. He was first married in Marshall County, to Miss Eliza Myers, by whom he became the father of eight children, viz., Charles L., John B. F.; Iola M., who died when twenty-one years old; David, Mary; Samuel K., who died at the age of nineteen months; Alice E. and James A. Mrs. Elizabeth Hallom died in Olio Township, Feb. 23, 1873.

Our subject was a second time married in this county, in September, 1874, to Melinda T. Clark, who was born in Clermont County, Ohio. They now have four children: Napoleon B. C., George M., Bazil P. and Hamilton L. Mr. Hallom has taken quite a prominent part in politics and is a sound Democrat. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace and been a School Director in his district for twenty-five years. His wife is a member of the Christian Church. The farm comprises 190 acres of land, which is well stocked with high-grade Short horn cattle and draft horses. There are good buildings and other substantial improvements.

PETER SCHERTZ, a prominent and influential citizen of Metamora, is one of the foremost business men of Woodford County. He is extensively engaged in dealing in lumber and grain in this city in partnership with his brother-in-law, Peter D. Schertz, and also at Cazenovia, and he has added various other branches of business, such as banking, the sale of hardware, harness and agricultural implements, besides having invested about $10,000 in imported draft horses to stock the county. He gives his personal attention to this multiplicity of interests, and in their prosecution has met with more than ordinary success, and is classed among the most wealthy and substantial citizens.

Mr. Schertz is a native born citizen of Woodford County, Worth Township the place of his birth, and Aug. 8, 1847, the date of that important event in his life. He speaks the German and English languages fluently. His father, Joseph Schertz, was born in France, and was a son of another Joseph Schertz, who came to this country about 1837, and was a pioneer of Worth Township, where he died at a good old age. The grandmother of our subject spent her entire life in her native land. The father of our subject came to America in 1835, and spent the first few weeks of his life in Cook County, in Chicago, then a small, insignificant place. He was present when the Indians were paid off there for the last time before their removal across the Mississippi. He proceeded to Fort Clark, as Peoria was then called, and from there made his way to Worth Township, of which he was one of the first settlers. He was married there in the year 1846 to Miss Anna Sears, a native of France. He bought a tract of land, improved a farm, and lived there eighteen years, and then bought the place where he now resides, in Worth Township. He came here a poor boy, with no other capital than a sound intellect and a vigorous constitution. But with a determined will he overcame every obstacle to success, and by far-reaching foresight and skillful labor, he has accumulated a large amount of property. He is partly indebted to his wife for his good fortune, she being a woman of more than ordinary ability, wise in counsel, and a ready and willing helper. Indeed it is said of her that she is "one of the smartest women in the county." They have four children now living, of whom the following is recorded: Peter, the date of whose birth has has already been mentioned; Mary, born Feb. 24, 1851; Annie, Aug. 26, 1853; Kate, April 19, 1856.

The subject of this biography was reared in his his native township, and received the benefit of an education in its public schools. As soon as large enough he commenced to assist his father on the farm, and continued to reside with him till 1871, when he came to Metamora to engage in the grain and lumber business, and at once commenced a successful career as a business man, his brother-in-

law, Peter D. Schertz, an able man, forming a partnership with him about ten years later. We have already mentioned the various other branches of business in which he is engaged, and in each he has been highly successful, and is regarded as one of the leading business men in this part of the county. Mr. Schertz has been twice married. His first marriage, which took place in 1874, was to Miss Mollie Rich. She was a native of Tazewell County, Ill., and a daughter of Joseph Rich, a native of Germany, and a pioneer of Tazewell County. Mrs. Schertz died in January, 1880, leaving one child, Joseph T. Our subject was married to his present wife, formerly Miss Dora Kuhl, May 26, 1881. She is a native of Woodford County, her parents who came from Germany, being quite early settlers of the county. Two bright daughters have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Schertz; Myrtle, born Feb. 26, 1883; Ruthie, July 4, 1885.

Our subject is a man of more than average energy, enterprise and business tact, possessing an unbending will, just and firm in all his dealings, his career being unexceptional, and such as to cast credit on his native county. He has the courage and intelligence to uphold his principles, although he is by no means an offensive partisan, as is clearly shown by the fact that he, a true Republican, has served several terms as Mayor of this city which is largely Democratic. He is prominent in politics, and has been a delegate to various county and State conventions. He is ever courteous and affable in his intercourse with others, and it has been said of him that although such a busy man, with so many enterprises under his personal supervision, "he always has time to be a gentleman." A sincere Christian, he is a worthy member of the Mennonite Church, while his wife is a valued member of the Presbyterian Church. He is a generous, open-handed, public-spirited man, and to his enterprise may be traced nearly every public improvement the city has had for years. He not only lends his influence, but uses his money freely to encourage public improvements of all kinds. He gives liberally to all charitable and needy objects, and he is untiring in his devotion to his friends, who always find him as true as steel, and one to be depended on in the hour of trouble. As an illustration of this, we will instance his conduct towards his brother-in-law, Will Kuhl, in the time of his terrible trial, when a great outrage was committed on him, whereby he lost his freedom for a time and might have lost his life but for the intervention of this kindest of brothers, who worked unceasingly for him till he secured his release. The facts of the famous Kuhl case which show to what lengths detectives will go, even to defrauding justice, in their greed to secure reward, are as follows:

In September, 1881, William Kuhl, a boy born and reared in Woodford County, was passing through Milwaukee on his way to Peoria, when he was arrested by the authorities, who mistook him for Lon Williams, the notorious murderer of the Colman brothers, for whose arrest a large reward had been offered. Mr. Kuhl telegraphed and wrote letters to his brother-in-law, Peter Schertz, but they never were delivered. His friends had arranged to meet him at the State fair in Peoria, but as he was not there, and hearing that a stranger had obtained a portrait of him in that city, Mr. Shertz hired detectives to look him up, as they were puzzled by his long silence. Mr. Schertz was soon informed that Mr. Kuhl was confined in the jail at Milwaukee. He immediately went there to see him, and after giving the authorities references, he was finally admitted into the jail after a long delay, and was there shown seven cells and six prisoners, neither of whom proved to be the man for whom he was searching. He asked if these were all the cells and all the prisoners, and received an affirmative answer. He then asked to be shown the man that claimed to be Kuhl, and the officer pointed out a man, and when our subject asked him if he was Kuhl, he answered "yes," and Mr. Schertz said that he was not the man he was looking for. He then returned to Chicago, secured the services of a United States officer, and went back to Milwaukee, and was granted access to the jail, and in an upper tier of cells found his brother-in-law. When asked why he was there, how long he had been there and why he had not written, Mr. Kuhl told our subject that he had been there six weeks; that he was held for Lon Williams, and asked in return why Mr. Schertz did not come to him when he wrote and telegraphed for him. On being informed that no let-

ters or telegrams had been received, he said to the sheriff, "Didn't you post my letters or send my telegrams?" All that official could reply was, "You didn't stamp your letters." Mr. Kuhl then said, "You told me that you had sent them, and when I asked you whether you had heard from my brother-in-law, you said that I was lying, that I had no brother-in-law." Mr. Schertz asked the officer what there was against his brother-in-law, and was curtly informed that it was none of his business. He replied that he would make it his business, and went out and secured a writ of habeas corpus. The officers refused to deliver the body, but unjustly held Mr. Kuhl on a charge of vagrancy. It seemed as though the authorities were in league with the detectives, and were determined to hold Kuhl whether rightly or wrongly. His trial for vagrancy was pushed by Mr. Schertz, who was willing to meet all expenses and take his brother-in-law out of the State. His trial for vagrancy was begun and lasted four days with a packed jury. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and recommended the mercy of the court. The judge said that sentence would be pronounced the next Tuesday, that day being Saturday. Again Mr. Schertz offered to pay the expenses and take Mr. Kuhl out of the State, but was refused, the court insisting that the prisoner was Lon Williams.

Leaving a reporter to watch proceedings, he went to Peoria, and on Sunday morning received a telegram stating that Mr. Kuhl was to be taken to Durand that night. It was certain that he would be lynched if he were taken there,and Mr. Schertz wired the authorities that he would hold them legally responsible if Kuhl were removed from the Milwaukee jail, and on Monday, accompanied by Judge Page, of Peoria, Sheriff Wilkersen and ex-Sheriff Horner, both of Woodford County, and Mr. Miller, the man for whom Mr. Kuhl worked in Hamilton, Ill., at the time of the murder of the Colman brothers, he stated for Milwaukee with Mr. Kuhl's sisters. They arrived Monday evening, ready to hear sentence passed Tuesday morning. They called at the jail the next moring and asked to see Mr. Kuhl, but the officer in charge said the sheriff was away, and Kuhl could not be seen, still refusing when appealed to on behalf of his sisters, assuring them, however, that Kuhl was still in jail. By permission of the court, Kuhl had been removed clandestinely at midnight, Monday. Mr. Schertz and his friends suspected that Kuhl was not in the jail, and found out that he had been taken from jail at night and started for Durand. The proper authorities were consulted who had sent the prisoner with the officers in charge, and were told that they would be held legally responsible for young Kuhl's life if he was taken to Durand. The officers then changed his course, and went a roundabout way to Menomonee, Wis. Mr. Schertz and his friends at once started by a direct route for that town, but changed their course at Camp Douglas, and there found a mob waiting with a rope to hang the supposed Lon Williams. At Menomonee they met the officers with Mr. Kuhl, and Mr. Miller, the man for whom he had worked, was placed in a room with twenty or more citizens of that place, and Mr. Kuhl was called in to identify him, and did so at once. Mr. Kuhl was then released, and the party then went St. Paul, and thence returned home to Illinois, and thus a lynching was prevented, and the officers lost the reward which they had used such questionable means to secure. Nothing more was done about the matter till a year and a half later, when election time came, and the officers who had caused Mr. Kahl's arrest and subsequent unlawful imprisonment, circulated stories and inserted in the papers that they had had the real Lon Williams in custody, but that Mr. Schertz had bribed not only the press, but the officers of the law, and had secured his release in that manner. Mr. Schertz was rightly indignant at such insulting assertions, and going to Milwaukee, asked the officers to affirm or retract what they had said and published, and on their refusal to do so, he brought suit in Mr. Kuhl's name for damages for false imprisonment. The case, one of the most remarkable of the kind in history, was at last decided in May, 1889, in the United States Circuit Court, and damages for the plaintiff in the sum of $4,750 and costs against the sheriff and his deputy. Thus the right at length triumphed; Mr. Kuhl's character was vindicated, and he had proved the value of a true friend, and of the truth of the old saying, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Mr. Schertz has

not only collected the judgment for his brother-in-law, but has secured a law on the statute books of the States that when a reward is offered, a detective cannot hold an innocent man and execute him because he is poor—a fact which should be and is appreciated by all law-abiding citizens.

A fine portrait of Mr. Schertz will be found on another page of this ALBUM.

DANIEL HILL comes of pioneer stock, his father, John Hill, having been an early settler, first of Ohio, and later of Tazewell County, this State. He was an Englishman by birth, and emigrated to this country, and settled in Ohio at an early day. In 1842 he left his pioneer home in Ohio, and with his family journeyed across the country to Illinois in the familiar prairie schooner of the frontiersman. Traveling slowly, and camping wherever night overtook them, after several weeks they arrived at their destination in Tazewell County. The father took up a tract of wild land within four miles of Pekin, and building a log cabin to shelter his family, he proceeded to the hard task of preparing his land for cultivation, and improving it into a good farm. Having but little means, he had to undergo many hardships and privations, and to labor unremittingly. He did not live to complete the work so well begun, but ere many years had passed away, he was numbered among the dead, and Tazewell County lost a useful, highly respected pioneer. He was twice married, and was the father of a number of children. Of his first marriage the following survive: John, residing near Cleveland, Ohio; Daniel; Harriet, the widow of Augustus Work, lives near Rock Island. The surviving children of his second marriage are Lucius, a resident of Tazewell County; Sarah J., wife of John Reese, of Tazewell County; Laura, wife of O. W. McClellan.

Daniel Hill, of this biographical review, was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, May 12, 1832, and when a mere child he had the sad misfortune to lose a good mother. He was about ten years old when he came with his father to this State, and was still a boy when he met with another severe loss in the death of his father, and thus orphaned, he was early thrown on his own resources. He was reared amid pioneer scenes, and his education, which was somewhat limited, was obtained in the primitive subscription schools of those early days of the settlement of this part of the State, said schools being held in a rude log cabin. He has since made up for the early deficiencies of his education by reading good literature, and keeping himself well-informed concerning all topics of interest. As before mentioned, he had to begin the struggle of life early, and he found employment among the farmers, and worked out by the month till he was about twenty-four years old. March 4, 1858, his marriage with Miss Mary A. Hodgson was solemnized, and by her cheerful assistance he has built up a comfortable home. Her parents, William and Phœbe Hodgson, were early settlers of Tazewell County, and are still living in Pekin. Daniel Hill became a resident of Panola Township, Woodford County, in the spring of 1858. His first purchase consisted of eighty acres of raw prairie land that he bought of the Illinois Central Railway, paying $16 an acre therefor. He has since bought more land, and now owns 100 acres, all well improved, provided with a neat dwelling, substantial barn, and other necessary buildings, all in complete order.

JOHN BERG, an enterprising farmer and stock-raiser of Woodford County, has been a resident of El Paso Township since the close of the Civil War. His home is on section 13, where he rents from his father eighty acres of well-improved and cultivated land, and he is the owner of an 80-acre farm in Palestine Township.

Mr. Berg is a native of Cambria County, Pa., having been born near Evansburg, Sept. 15, 1844. He is the eldest son and second child of Peter and

Ann E. (Berg) Berg, natives of the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany. The father, Peter Berg, lived in the Fatherland and worked on the home farm, until he had attained the age of twenty-seven years, when he came to the United States and located near Cambria, Pa. Soon after his removal to this country he met a young lady, who, like himself, had left the native Germany, and with other members of her family sought a home beyond the sea. With her Mr. Berg was united in marriage, still continuing to make his home in Pennsylvania, where, assisted by his wife he accumulated a comfortable fortune. Becoming, however, dissatisfied with the East, and hearing constantly of the great possibilities of the growing West, Mr. and Mrs. Berg emigrated to Illinois. The year previous to their removal their son, our subject, had sought the West, and was so delighted with what he saw of the soil and climate of Woodford County, that he persuaded his parents to remove and join him in that county. After their removal here Peter Berg continued to till the soil and gather in the harvests, and was so prospered in this undertaking that he became the owner and proprietor of a large farm in Palestine Township, in 1865, and there lived until the spring of 1866, when they retired to the city of El Paso, and there the mother died March 27, 1889. She had reached the sixty-seventh year of her age. She was a good woman, a loving wife and mother, and a member of the Evangelical Association, as is also her husband, who yet survives. He has gone back to his home in Palestine Township, where he lives with his younger son, Frank. He is now seventy-six years old, but he is hale and hearty, and bids fair to reach the close of another cycle of his life.

During the late Civil War our subject was not slow to respond to the call for troops, and enlisted first in the State Militia, and later in the 21st Pennsylvania Regiment, and served in his regiment for one year. He was in no active engagements, but was in several skirmishes, and was never found in the rear of the fight. He was honorably discharged at Philadelphia at the close of the war. It was about this time that he removed to Woodford County, which has since been his residence. Then he was a single man, but he did not long remain so. He was united in marriage with Miss Lotta Webber, the ceremony being solemnized in El Paso. His wife is a native of Germany, and was born Oct. 23, 1856. She was reared in the land of her nativity, and while in her youth came, in 1873, to America, locating in El Paso. Her father, Henry Webber, lives in Germany, being at this time about three-score years of age. During the more active part of his life Mr. Webber has been a farmer, but he now has retired from everything pertaining to the arduous duties of the farm, and superintends the estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg are the parents of three children, who are: Victoria E., Matilda M., Walter F. They are giving their children a good education, and are fitting them for the duties that await them in the future. Mr. Berg is a member of the Evangelical Church, while his wife belongs to the Lutheran Church. Politically, Mr. Berg affiliates with the Republican party, but has avoided the responsibilities of office, preferring to live quietly in the midst of home enjoyments.

JR. TOOL, the present efficient Supervisor of Greene Township, is one of the most popular young farmers of the community. He now owns and operates 160 acres of land on the southwest quarter of section 1, being the old home farm of his father, and where he has resided for a number of years. His entire life has been spent in this county; his birth having occurred at Low Point, Nov. 20, 1846. He is a son of Conrad H. and Eliza (Remley) Tool, the former a native of West Virginia, born near Wheeling, and the latter born in the Buckeye State. The father came to Illinois in 1833, in company with his parents, John and Elizabeth Tool, who will long be remembered by the early settlers of Metamora Township. They first settled in McLean County, but a few years afterward came to Woodford County, and made their home in the township before mentioned. Mr. Tool, when only nineteen years of age enlisted in in the American army during the War of 1812,

and participated in many important engagements. He followed the trade of coopering in connection with farming until his removal to the West, when he devoted his attention entirely to the latter pursuit.

The father of our subject also made farming his life occupation. He was reared to manhood in McLean, Woodford and Tazewell counties, and in the last named, married Eliza Remley, a native of Monroe County, Ohio, who came with her parents to this county when a child. In 1857, Mr. and Mrs. Tool removed to their large farm in Greene township, comprising 320 acres, which they had previously purchased. They were numbered among the highly respected people of the community, and at their death the county lost two of its best citizens. The wife and mother was called to her final home in December, 1885, at the age of sixty-six years, the husband surviving until June 9, 1887, when he also departed this life at the age of sixty-eight years. Their family numbered the following children: George M., Joseph R.; William H. died in 1886; Elizabeth E., Almira D., Sylvester and Eliza; John died at the age of two years.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the district schools of his neighborhood. His early life was passed in much the same manner as other farmer lads, and on reaching man's estate, in 1868, he wedded Miss Mary A. Harding, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bier) Harding, both of whom were natives of Devonshire, England. In 1848, they left their home across the sea and came to America, landing at New York, then proceeded west, locating in Peoria. For some time Mr. Harding worked in a lumber-yard in that city, and then engaged in farming for about four or five years, after which he came to Woodford County in 1858. He purchased land in Clayton Township, and became one of the well to-do farmers of the community. He was a man of prominence and influence, and for several years held the office of Supervisor. For many years he had officiated as Deacon of the Baptist Church, and won many warm friends by his upright life and gentlemanly bearing. His wife, a most estimable lady, was also greatly respected by those who knew her, and it was with deep regret that their departure for the West was witnessed. In 1881, they became residents of Saline County, Neb., where they are still living. They were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom grew to manhood and womanhood—James F., Mary A., Margaret E., George H., Edwin S., Charles W., Ephraim V. and Alva D. and Alice, twins. Sarah, the second child, died in infancy, and Albert G., the youngest, died at the age of fifteen years.

Mrs. Tool was born in Peoria, May 27, 1849, and in the schools of that city and Woodford County received a liberal education. She is a lady of high social attainments, of culture and refinement, and since sixteen years of age has been a member of the Baptist Church, in which she is an active worker. By her marriage she has become the mother of six children—Elmer W., Floyd E., Alta M., Alberta R., Elsie M. and Claude A.

Since his marriage, Mr. Tool has followed farming and now owns and operates 100 acres of highly improved land, it being the old homestead of his father on the southwest quarter of section 1, Greene Township. The entire amount is under cultivation, he has good barns and outbuildings, a pleasant home and raises the best grades of stock, but though his business interests are extensive, he has found time to devote to public affairs. Knowing his worth and ability, his fellow citizens have often called upon him to serve in public positions of honor and trust. For a number of years he held the office of Constable, in 1879 and 1880 was Tax-Collector of Greene Township, for three terms has served as Township School Trustee, and in the spring of 1889 was elected both to that office and Supervisor. He has also acted as Marshal at the fairs held at El Paso, and has done effective service for the Fair association. He has ever discharged the duties devolving upon him in a manner highly satisfactory to his constituents and with credit to himself. His popularity is equalled only by his worth, and his high-standing among his fellow-citizens is the result of his upright life, gentlemanly deportment and cordial manner. Socially, Mr. Tool is a member of the Masonic lodge at El Paso, and in politics, is a Democrat. As already seen, he takes a deep interest in local political affairs, and he also does all in his power to insure the success of

the party at the State and National elections. He has gained a high reputation as an auctioneer and salesman and has served in that capacity at many important sales in Marshall, McLean, Livingston and Woodford counties. Nature has endowed him with a manly bearing and an excellent voice, clear and strong, which makes him an adept in that line. Few men are more widely and favorably known than J. R. Tool, and we are pleased to record his sketch.

WILLIAM F. TUCKER, a retired farmer and now a resident of El Paso, occupies a snug home on First street, where he has lived for a period of twenty-one years. He was formerly engaged in farming in Gridley Township, McLean Co., Ill. His landed possessions consisted of eighty acres of land in Lawndale Township, that county. At one time he was owner of over 300 acres in Anchor Township, that county, and which was operated by his sons.

Mr. Tucker came to Illinois in 1835, and from that time until 1868 was continuously engaged in farming pursuits. Until 1855 he lived about four miles east of Pekin, on a farm which he owned in Tazewell County, and in the latter part of that year removed to McLean County. There he secured Government and railroad land, consisting of new prairie, from which he improved a farm and was very prosperous. In 1868 he retired from active labor and since that time has been considerably engaged as a money-lender.

When first establishing himself on his new farm in McLean County, Mr. Tucker had no neighbors for some years nearer than two miles. A native of Washington County, Ky., he was born Sept. 4, 1816, and is the son of Truman and Esther (Fitzgerald) Tucker, who were natives of Maryland and were of Scotch ancestry. They were married in Maryland and soon afterward emigrated to the wilds of Washington County, Ky., where they improved their time and where several of their children were born. From Washington they removed to Bullitt County, and from there to Meade County, where the household circle was completed by the birth of several more children. Of the twelve, eleven came to Illinois with the parents. One of the sons was already married and removed to Missouri. All but one lived to mature years, the deceased being a daughter who died in her girlhood days.

The only survivors of this once large family are our subject and his sister Dorothy, Mrs. Thomas, a widow, and living in Washington County, Ky. The father died in Tazewell County, Ill., at the age of fifty-six years, and his wife, the mother of our subject, passed from earth three years later at about the age of her husband. Both were Catholics in religion. William F. was about twenty years of age when he accompanied the family to Illinois. He was married near Pekin to Miss Margaret Cullom, a relative of ex-Governor and now Senator Cullom. She was born in Boone County, Ky., July 22, 1818, and was the daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (Bennett) Cullom, who were natives respectively of Maryland and New Jersey. The latter were married either in Ohio or Kentucky. A part of what is now the city of Cincinnati was once the homestead of George Cullom, the grandfather of Mrs. Tucker, who sojourned there many years, but finally died at the home of his son, Francis, in Kentucky. Francis Cullom and wife emigrated to Tazewell County, Ill., as early as 1827, when the present site of Pekin, near which they settled, was marked only by two log cabins. They established themselves in a similar domicile on a squatter's claim before a Government land office had been opened. Mr. Cullom immediately set about the improvement of the farm in which he succeeded admirably, and there spent the remainder of his life, passing away at the age of sixty-two years. The mother died in her prime when comparatively a young woman.

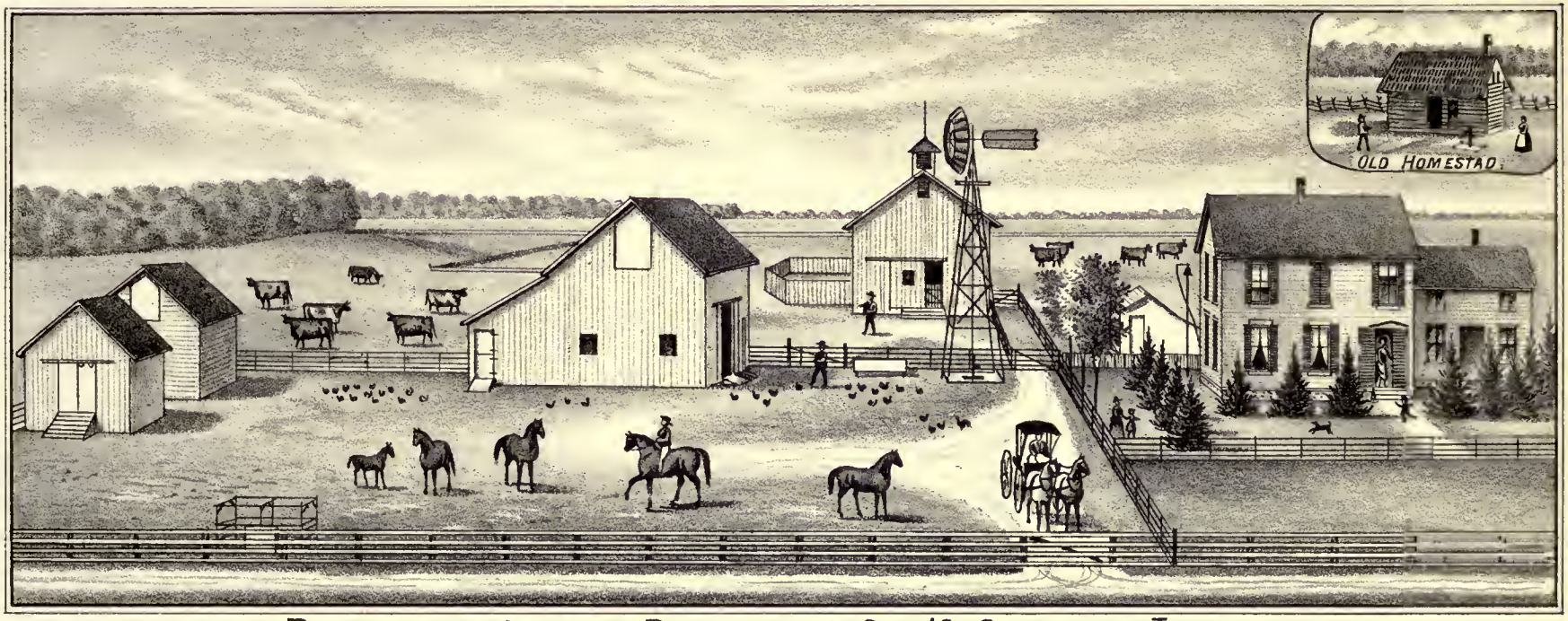
Of the nine children born to the parents of Mrs. Tucker, seven lived to mature years and five of these were married. Two of the sons served as privates in the Black Hawk War. Two of the others went to California in 1849, and both met their death by being murdered it is believed. Mrs. Tucker was a young girl upon coming to Illinois, and she remained under the parental roof until her

marriage. Her union with our subject resulted in the birth of eight children, five of whom are deceased. Four of these were named respectively, Green W., Evert, Alice and James C. The three first mentioned died when quite young; James adopted the profession of a teacher and died in Arkansas when a young man. Of the survivors Francis T. married Miss Catherine Socks, and is farming in Shasta County, Cal.; William T. married Miss Luella S. Smith, and they live near Colfax, McLean County, Ill., on a farm; John S. is a dentist by profession and a resident of Bloomington. He married Mrs. Jennie (Worley) Bowers. Mr. Tucker, politically is an uncompromising Democrat and has held the minor offices. He and his family are possessed of more than ordinary intelligence and are greatly respected in the social circles of their community. Mrs. Tucker is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

MORGAN BUCKINGHAM, deceased, and his father, were early settlers of Woodford County, and occupied a prominent place among its sturdy, self-reliant, enterprising pioneers who in those days when the country was new, worked so vigorously to open it up for settlement and develop its vast resources. Thus they laid the foundation of a solid, enduring prosperity, and their names will ever be held in reverence by coming generations for the part they performed in transforming the wild prairies into cultivated farms. Our subject was a large land-owner in Cazenovia Township, where he was extensively engaged in farming till his untimely death while in life's prime removed one of the foremost citizens of this community. Near the center of section 16 he erected a commodious hewed log house, that was considered one of the most elegant houses in the county at the time, and that substantial residence is still standing as a relic of pioneer days.

Our subject was born in Greene County, Pa., Sept. 9, 1803. His father, Isaac Buckingham, was born in Eastern Pennsylvania, April 15, 1752. He was married Sept. 20, 1802, to Miss Sarah Jones, who was born March 25, 1781, and was the daughter of Morgan and Mary Jones and a niece of that David Jones who was chaplain in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War and was one of Washington's trusted counselors. Isaac Buckingham remained a resident of Pennsylvania till 1832, when he emigrated with his family to Illinois, coming on a steamer by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to St. Louis, whence they propelled themselves on a flatboat up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Lacon (then known as Columbus), where they landed on the 29th day of April. They made their way to the house of Squire Barnes, a pioneer of Lacon, with whom the family rendezvoused while the father sought a suitable location. He finally selected a tract of land in what is now known as Cazenovia Township, Woodford County, and built a house on section 9, into which the family removed when it was completed. He and his sons then and subsequently invested in upward of 3,000 acres of land in Cazenovia Township, besides buying lands in other parts of the county, and they placed themselves among the wealthiest and most prosperous pioneers in this part of the State. The elder Buckingham made his home here till his death, Feb. 19, 1849. He was a man of sturdy qualities, upright, honest and highly respected by the entire community. After his death his wife made her home with her children, and died at the residence of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Hammers, May 27, 1855. Both she and her husband were faithful members of the Baptist Church, and religious services were often held in their house. Eight of their children grew to maturity, as follows: Morgan, Jane, Mary, Eleanor Ruth, Hannah, William and Sarah.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest son of his parents. He was reared to man's estate in the place of his birth, and in early life became an expert blacksmith and cooper, learning those trades of his father and following them in Pennsylvania till 1832, when he came to Illinois with his parents. He made a claim to and entered large tracts of Government land, and at once commenced the improvement of the same. Being a single man he lived with his parents till his marriage, when he



RESIDENCE OF MORGAN BUCKINGHAM, SEC. 16. CAZENOVIA TOWNSHIP.

located on section 16, erecting as before mentioned a large hewed log house, built in a most substantial manner, with porches in front and rear; it was then considered a very handsome residence, and it is still standing, well preserved, as a relic of pioneer days. It was his home till death called him from his earthly labors, Aug. 26, 1845, in the midst of a busy and useful career, ere he had reached the meridian of life. In his death the township and county suffered the loss of a good citizen who had never been unmindful of their interests while working hard to promote his own, and had displayed proper public spirit on all occasions. He bore an honorable part in the management of public affairs, proving a valuable civic official, and after the organization of the township he was appointed the first Justice of the Peace. Of the three children born to him and his wife, two grew to maturity, one having died in infancy. Their daughter Margaret, the elder of the two, is now the wife of the Hon. P. A. Coen (of whom see sketch on another page of this volume). A biographical account of their son Morgan is appended to this review of the father's life.

The wife of our subject was born in Greene County, Pa., July 20, 1814. Her father, Jacob Garrison, was born in Germany, and coming to America when quite young with his parents, was a resident of Greene County, Pa., until his death in the year 1843. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret Six, and she was also a German by birth. She died in Pennsylvania many years before the decease of her husband. The wife of our subject made her home with her father till she came to Illinois in 1841, accompanied by two of her sisters and joined her brother in Cazenovia Township. For some years after her marriage with our subject she used to cook by the open fireplace, and would spin and weave all the cloth and make all the clothes worn by the family. After Mr. Buckingham's death she married a second time, May 4, 1851, to Jesse Hamners, now deceased (see sketch). She makes her home with her son Morgan, one of the leading farmers in this section of the State of Illinois, of which he is a native born citizen. His birth took place in Cazenovia Township, Oct. 22, 1845, and here he grew to a strong and vigorous manhood, receiving the advantages of an education in the public schools. He was but a boy when the great rebellion broke out, but he was fired with patriotism and with youthful ardor longed to defend the old flag under whose folds he had been born, and as soon as circumstances permitted he enlisted and his name was enrolled as a member of Company G, 134th Illinois Infantry. He served till the following December, being on duty mostly in Kentucky and Missouri. Our young volunteer then became very ill from the hardships and exposure that he had to endure, and was taken home to die, as it was thought, receiving his honorable discharge after his return to Illinois. His naturally vigorous constitution triumphed over his ills, and by the good care of his friends he was enabled to defy death and recover his wonted health. As soon as he was able to work he resumed farming, and at the time of his marriage settled on the farm where he now resides. This estate, including his father's homestead, embraces 800 acres of exceptionally fine farming land, some of which is said to be the most productive in the county, it producing hazel brush nineteen feet high at eleven years growth. Mr. Buckingham has erected a good set of frame buildings on the southwest part of the northwest quarter of section 16, Cazenovia Township, and here he and his family have a very pleasant home, the seat of that genuine hospitality that "welcomes the coming and speeds the parting guest." A view of this residence and its rural surroundings is given on another page of this volume. Mr. Buckingham has quite a collection of relics and curios, and among other things is a very peculiar relic of pioneer days in the shape of a piece of soap that his grandmother brought from Pennsylvania in 1832, fifty-seven long years ago.

Mr. Buckingham has been twice married. His first marriage, which took place Dec. 21, 1865, was to Miss Melissa A. Safford, a daughter of John and Edna Safford. She was born in Cazenovia Township, June 14, 1848, and Aug. 24, 1875, fell into that dreamless sleep that knows no earthly waking. In her death her family experienced the bitter loss of a considerate wife and a tender mother. Three children were born to our subject

by that marriage: Clarence M., Lonnie A. and Maggie. Mr. Buckingham was married to his present amiable wife, Feb. 4, 1878. Her maiden name was Lucinda Finch, and she was born in Pennsylvania Sept. 2, 1857, a daughter of James and Dorcas (Casey) Finch. The following children have come to bless her marriage with our subject: Ruah E., William, James I., L. B., John and Jesse Harrison.

As a worthy descendant of an honored pioneer, our subject is zealously carrying on the work in which his father and grandfather and their fellow-pioneers so well began, and he has materially aided in the progress and added to the prosperity of his native county, which finds in him one of the most deserving sons and most loyal citizens. He is a man of good parts, of strong common sense, keen business tact and displays great ability in the management of his large property.

PETER BELSLEY, President of the Roanoke Mining Co., an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, residing at Roanoke, is prominently identified with the leading interests of Woodford, his native county. He was born in this part of Illinois, Dec. 7, 1841, the son of Joseph Belsley, a pioneer of this part of the State. His father was born in the German province of Alsace when it belonged to France, and his father, Michael Belsley, is supposed to have been born in the same province, being descended of Swiss ancestry. The grandfather of our subject came to America about 1834, and located in Spring Bay Township, of which he thus became a pioneer. He was a farmer, and took up a tract of wild land which he improved into a farm ere his death. The maiden name of his wife was Catherine Schertz, and she was likewise a native of Alsace. She spent her last years with her children. The father of our subject was reared and educated in his native land, and continued to reside there until he was nineteen years old. At that age he came to America in 1831 with an uncle who paid his passage. He worked for him two years after his arrival here, and then started out in life for himself square with the world. When he came to this country he had landed at Baltimore, and thence he went to Pennsylvania and stayed there a short time. He next made his way to Ohio and resided near Cincinnati for a time. After that he came to Illinois, and commenced working by the day or month, with headqnarters at Peoria or Hilton, across the river from the former city. Peoria was then known as Fort Clark, there being a stockade there. The country was very sparsely inhabited, it being but a few years since the first white settlers had made their appearance in this region, and Woodford County had not then been organized. Mr. Belsley lived in Peoria for some years and then came to Woodford County, and in the southwestern part rented land for a time, and then bought a tract on section 24, Spring Bay. There was a log cabin on the place and a few acres of the land were broken and under cultivation. He carried on farming there till 1852, when he rented it out and bought a larger tract of land on the same section, on which he resided the remainder of his life, his death occurring Oct. 23, 1879. He led a busy, active life, and by the exercise of those traits of character which lead a man to success he became prosperous and secured a competence. He was a thoroughly estimable man, well liked by all and regarded with great respect. His good wife survived him till February, 1880, making her home on the old homestead till she too passed from the scene of their pioneer labors. There were twelve children in their family: Peter (our subject); Christian, who lives in Bellwood, Neb.; Joseph, a resident of Peoria; John; David, a resident of Bellwood, Neb.; Solomon, a resident of Spring Bay; Benjamin, of Roanoke; Catherine, the only daughter, died in her seventeenth year; four sons died in infancy. Mrs. Belsley's maiden name was Barbara Engel, and she was born in Lorraine, France. Her father and mother, Joseph and Barbara Engel, were born in the same province and came to America with their family about 1835. Mr. Engel settled in what is Worth Township, Woodford County, of which he thus became a pioneer. He reclaimed a farm from its wild state,

and made his home on it till death. The parents of our subject were devout members of the Mennonite Church and reared their children in the same faith.

The subject of this biographical review was reared and educated in Woodford County and has spent his entire life within its precincts. He was born about the time the county was organized, and has been a witness of almost its entire growth. When he was young wolves were plenty, and deer, wild turkeys and other wild game often added a rich feast to the pioneers' scanty supply of food. There were no railways here, and for many years Spring Bay was the most flourishing town in the county and was quite a trading and shipping point. Young Belsley lived with his parents till he was twenty-six years old, and then his father gave him the southeast quarter of section 25, Roanoke Township, on which was a small frame house and a small stable, and in the spring of 1869 he settled on that place. He lived there until the spring of 1876, when he located where he now resides on the same section. He is extensively engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and in his career as an agriculturist of more than average ability, he has displayed great enterprise, far-reaching forethought and profound judgment, which traits have placed him among the foremost farmers of the county. The home farm comprises 320 acres of well improved land, with a handsome and conveniently arranged set of frame buildings and all the conveniences for carrying on farming after the most approved methods. Mr. Belsley also has 160 acres of choice land on section 13, Roanoke Township, and owns a quarter of section 19, Waldo Township, Livingston County. Our subject is prominently connected with the mining interests of his native county. He was active in securing the organization of the Roanoke Mining Company, and has served as its president ever since its organization, a position for which his fine business talents amply qualify him.

Mr. Belsley and Miss Catherine Schertz were united in marriage in 1867, and to them have been born nine children: Annie H., John J., Christian D., Edward M., Magdalena Emma, Amos A., Mary B., Kate A. and Benjamin R. Mrs. Belsley is also a native of Woodford County, born in Worth Township, a daughter of John and Magdalena Schertz.

Mr. Belsley's course in life has been such as to reflect credit on the citizenship of his native county. A man of many resources, possessing a clear, acute intellect, and a capacity for business unsurpassed, he has been a prominent factor in advancing the financial prosperity of Roanoke as well as in extending its agricultural interests, and this township finds in him a citizen of public spirit who never hesitates to use his influence to forward all schemes that are in anyway likely to benefit the community. In politics a strong Democrat, he has been a delegate to county and district conventions, and his means, his ability and his energy have always been at the disposal of his party to a most generous extent.

WILLIAM R. RICHARDSON, who is the owner of a valuable farm of 290 acres situated on section 18, Palestine Township, has passed his entire life in this county. He was born in Bowling Green, on the 3d of June, 1836, and is a son of James Madison Richardson. His paternal grandfather in an early day removed from his native State, Virginia, to Kentucky, where he made his home for some years, when, accompanied by two of his sons, he went to Ohio. The Buckeye State was then in a wild and uncultivated condition. One could travel miles through the forests without coming upon a single settlement, and the red men were still numerous. Mr. Richardson, grandfather of our subject, met his death in that State. He was murdered by a stealthy Indian who had been living with him in the hunting regions. The fellow had deliberately planned to perform the deed, and used Mr. Richardson's gun in taking the life of that worthy gentleman.

James Madison Richardson, father of our subject, was born in Floyd County, Ind., and was fifteen years of age when he went with his father to

Maumee, Ohio. A few years later he returned to his mother, who was still living in Floyd County, and while there making his home, wooed and won Miss Nancy Russell, sister of Charles Russell, in whose sketch, found elsewhere in this work, is a history of the family. The young couple began their domestic life in the county where their marriage was celebrated, and unto them was born one child, Charles R. In 1831, accompanied by his little family, Mr. Richardson came to Illinois, in company with a man from the same neighborhood. They brought all their earthly possessions in a one-horse wagon and at night encamped by the road-side. At length they reached Woodford County, and settled in what is now Palestine Township, where Mr. Richardson preempted land from the Government, and from that time engaged in agricultural pursuits. He founded the village of Bowling Green, he and his brother laying out the village. He and his brother at one time owned and operated a gristmill and sawmill near that village. From time to time he added to his claim until his landed possessions aggregated 2,000 acres, the greater part of which was under cultivation at the time of his death. Near the close of his life he laid aside all business cares, determined to spend his declining years in retirement. He died at his home in Secor, Palestine Township, Aug. 12, 1875, at the age of sixty-one years, his death resulting from a cancer. Industry and energy characterized his entire career, and his life was one of usefulness. His wife, too, passed away, her death occurring on Jan. 31, 1886, when seventy-five years of age, at the same place as that of her husband, Secor. They were both charter members of the first Christian Church organized in Woodford County, and for a number of years Mr. Richardson was one of its leading county officials. They were charitable and benevolent people, who by their many acts of kindness won a large circle of friends and died respected by all.

The family to which our subject belongs numbered ten children, of which he was third in order of birth. He was reared to manhood upon his father's farm and received his education in the district schools of the neighborhood. His marriage was celebrated at Quincy, Ill., the lady of his choice being Miss Nancy N. Butler, who was born in Harrison County, Ind., on the 7th day of October, 1832, and is a daughter of Hiram and Maria (Nance) Butler, the former a native of Kentucky, and the latter of Floyd County, Ind., where their wedding occurred. For a little more than a year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Butler resided in Indiana, when, with their only child, Mrs. Richardson, they removed to Pekin, Ill., the journey being made over the river route. Some time after that they became residents of Woodford County, and in Palestine Township Mr. Butler entered a farm which he improved and cultivated. His next place of residence was Bowling Green, where he carried on a store for some years, when he went with his family to Adams County, Ill., where he made his home for twelve years. At the expiration of that time they became residents of Hancock County, where the death of Mr. Butler occurred in 1868, at his home near Carthage. He was then fifty-eight years of age. His widow still survives him, and is now living in Clay County, Iowa, at the age of seventy-six years. She is a most estimable lady, and a member of the Methodist Church, to which her husband also belonged.

Three children have been born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, all yet living: Mary is now the wife of Hector M. St. Clair, a native of Illinois, who was educated in Naples, and is now a prominent attorney of Kearney, Neb. Five children graced their marriage: William H., Jay E., Mildred, Ella and Clara (deceased). Dora and Eva C. are at home. Like their mother, the daughers are intelligent and refined young ladies, of whom the parents may justly be proud. The household is noted for its hospitality, and their circle of friends is indeed extensive. Mrs. Richardson and her daughters are members of the Christian Church and are held in the highest regard by all who know them.

Throughout his entire life Mr. Richardson has followed the occupation of farming and has been very successful in that line. For more than half a century he has made his home in this county, having always resided in Palestine Township, where he now owns one of the best farms of the community. It has been his home for the past thirty-

three years and comprises 290 acres of rich and highly cultivated land, which pays tribute to his care and cultivation. He is a representative citizen, and takes a deep interest in public affairs, doing all in his power to promote the general welfare. Like his honored father and grandfather, he supports the Democratic party and is a warm advocate of its principles.

LEWIS B. WILLIAMS, M. D., was born in Woodford County, on the 10th of January, 1859. More fortunate than many others, he was able to take the advantages of a classical education. He was a student at Miller's Commercial School, Keokuk, Iowa, also attended college in Peoria. He took a thorough course of study at the Rush Medical College, and after three years' study was graduated, in 1889, as a physician and surgeon. Having thus ably prepared himself for his life work Dr. Williams settled in Spring Bay, where he has built up a good practice, and is justly considered one of the rising physicians of the present day. In future years many will have occasion to be grateful to Dr. Williams, as they have in the past, for his quick perception of diseases, and his ability to get at the root of the trouble.

Milton Williams, the father of our subject, was a native of the State of Illinois, and began to fight with the world for his daily bread when he was but a lad. His capital was a pair of willing hands and a courageous mind, but armed with these he had no fear for the future. He was a farmer, and left at his death a fine farm of 400 acres, all improved and in a good state of cultivation. Not only was he prospered financially, but he enjoyed the confidence and respect of all who knew him, for such was the uprightness of his life, and so great his personal honesty that the world was benefited by his having lived in it.

In 1849 Mr. Williams was induced by reports of the wonderful gold mines of California to cross the plains for that State. It was then a wilderness inhabited by a bold, desperate class of people. For five years he worked there in the mines, and while he gained money, the hardships and deprivations of that far-off land were scarcely compensated for by the financial gain. So he gladly returned to his own State in 1854.

The willing helpmate and companion of Milton Williams, his comforter in trouble and his sharer in every joy, was his wife, whose maiden was Cordelia Delong. Her parents had for many years been residents of Ohio, but came West at a time when people sought fortunes in Illinois. To Milton Williams and his wife there were born three children, namely: Ira, Ailsie and Lewis B. our subject. Ira is a grain dealer and resides in Cedar Bluffs, Neb.; Ailsie married George W. Deford, who is a prosperous farmer of this county.

Milton Williams passed to his final rest in 1873, mourned by a large circle of friends. His wife survives him, and is at present residing in this county, having reached the age of forty-eight years. Mr. Williams was in political affairs a sympathizer of the Democratic party, and was a man who exerted a great influence not only at the polls but in any prominent political matter. He left the priceless heritage of a good name to his descendants, who will have reason to be proud of their ancestry.

SAMUEL STITT, one of the early settlers and representative citizens of Woodford County, has since 1855 been prominently identified with the history of this community as one of its most successful farmers. He now resides on section 11, Palestine Township, where he has made his home for almost a quarter of a century. The Stitt family is of Scotch-Irish descent, and was founded in America during the days of the Revolutionary War by Samuel Stitt, grandfather of our subject. That gentleman was a native of the Emerald Isle, and made his home in the land of his birth until the Colonies began their struggle for independence, when he embarked for America. He took passage on a war vessel and remained on it as a soldier, taking an active part in various marine

engagements and fighting for the liberty of the country he had resolved to make his future home. After three years of warfare he settled in Pennsylvania, where he made his home for a number of years.

Prior to his emigration the grandfather of our subject had married a lady of Irish birth, who died a short time after becoming a resident of the Keystone State, and left two children to her husband's care. Mr. Stitt again married, his second union, which occurred in Pennsylvania, being with Elizabeth Orin, who, it is thought, was born in this country of Irish parentage. Some time after his marriage Mr. Stitt removed with his family to Kentucky, and later became a resident of Ohio. He was numbered among the early settlers of Brown County, where he passed the remainder of his life. Possessing a rigorous constitution, he seemed especially adapted to the hardships and trials which come to those establishing homes on the frontier. He died at the age of fifty years, and his wife departed this life in Highland County, at the advanced age of fourscore years, leaving a large family of children.

John Stitt, the father of our subject, was one of the younger members of the family of three sons and four daughters, which graced the union of Samuel Stitt and Elizabeth Orin. He was born during the residence of his parents in Kentucky, and in 1799, when but three years of age, came with them to Highland County, and when about eighteen years old accompanied them on their removal to Brown County, Ohio, then almost a wilderness. The red men far outnumbered the white settlers of the community, for the country was then in its early infancy. Mr. Stitt was reared to manhood in the midst of these wild surroundings, and on attaining mature years was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Cooper, a native of Pennsylvania, and daughter of John and Hannah (Dunseth) Cooper, who were natives of Ireland. Her father came to America in the days of his youth, and when eighteen years of age enlisted in the Revolutionary War, in which he served for seven years as a lieutenant. He was a brave and worthy soldier, and his gallant conduct on the field of battle won him high praise. After the close of the war, when the Colonies were freed from the yoke of British tyranny, he was married, and with his young bride began life in Pennsylvania, making it his home for about twenty years, then settling in Brown County, Ohio, he there spent the remainder of his days, dying at the age of eighty-five years. His wife afterwards removed to Indiana, where she died at the home of one of her children when past the age of eighty years. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper were members of the Baptist Church, and the members of the Stitt family were originally Presbyterians.

When the parents of our subject were married they at once settled upon a farm in Brown County, Ohio, where five children, three sons and two daughters, were born unto them. Mr. Stitt followed agricultural pursuits throughout the greater part of his life. He died on the homestead in Byrd Township, Brown County, of heart disease, at the age of fifty years, and by his death the community lost one of its best citizens. In his early years he was a member of the New Light Church, then a strong religious organization in the Buckeye State, but later united with the Christian Church, of which he was a faithful member at the time of his death. In 1854 his excellent wife came to Illinois and made her home with our subject until she too passed away, March 14, 1884. Had she been spared but twenty days longer she would have attained her ninetieth year. She died in the faith of the Christian Church, of which she had been a member for half a century. Samuel, of this sketch, and his brother Joseph are the only members of the family yet surviving. The latter, who is a farmer and mechanic, is still a resident of Brown County, Ohio. However, with one exception, all of the family grew to manhood and womanhood and were married.

Samuel Stitt, the subject of this notice, was reared by worthy Christian parents, and was early taught habits of industry and honesty. His education was received in the public schools of Brown County, Ohio, where his birth occurred March 7, 1823. On arriving at man's estate he left his home and came to Illinois, settling in Woodford County, the date of his arrival being 1855. Five years later, Dec. 20, 1860, he returned to his childhood's home and was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Pickerell, who was born in Brown County, Sept. 9, 1836.

Her parents, William and Abigail (Fisher) Pickerell, were also natives of the same county, and were probably of English descent. William Pickerell passed his entire life in Brown County, his death occurring on the old homestead at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife survived until 1887, when she too departed this life at the old home, at the age of fourscore years. The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Stitt, Samuel Pickerell, was also a brave soldier and hero of the Revolutionary War, having served his country for seven years in its struggle for independence. He died at the extreme old age of ninety years, in Brown County, where the death of his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Lowe, also occurred at a ripe age. The Pickerell family were firm believers in the principles of the Christian Church.

Mrs. Stitt, the honored wife of our subject, made her home in her native county until her marriage, and by her union with Samuel Stitt, ten children have been born, one of whom, William O., died unmarried at the age of twenty-three years. Those living are: Frank B., who married Miss Flora Gardner of El Paso, and is now the efficient cashier of the El Paso National Bank; George is manager of a large lumber yard at Hutchinson, Kan., where he now resides; Harry E., J. Oscar, L. Gay, Byron L., S. Spencer, Maude M. and Lutie M. are still at home.

When Mr Stitt came to Woodford County, he settled in Metamora Township, but one year later removed to Linn Township, purchasing land and engaging in farming until 1865, when he removed to his present home. At that time he purchased eighty acres of land, but has since bought another tract of forty acres, so that his farm now comprises 120 acres. He has made farming his principal occupation through life, and has been very successful in that line. He is industrious and enterprising, and his farm is now one of the best in the township, almost the entire amount being under a high state of cultivation. Aside from his business, however, he has found time to devote to public affairs, and has identified himself with the best interests of the community, and has aided in the promotion of those enterprises which tend to advance the general welfare. He has participated in the growth and progress, the advancement and development which has been carried on since his settlement, and to him a debt of gratitude is due for the part which he has taken in the upbuilding of the county. His wife is an active member of the Christian Church and is held in high regard in the social world. Politically, he is independent, aiming to support by his vote the candidate whom he regards as best qualified to represent the people.

Mr. Stitt and his wife have a very pleasant and comfortable residence, which is represented by a fine lithographic engraving on another page of this volume, and in it they welcome their many friends, passing hours of social enjoyment in games, music and other diversions from work-a-day cares.

HENRY KRUG. This gentleman is worthy of mention as one of the younger farmers of Panola Township, where he is successfully operating a fine tract of land on section 8. His native State was Massachusetts, and the date of his birth March 14, 1853. His parents were Michael and Catherine (Benson) Krug, who were natives of Bavaria, and the latter of whom died at her home in Panola Township, in December, 1880; the father is living with our subject.

The parents of our subject emigrated to America about 1850, and settled first in the Bay State. Their family consisted of five children: The eldest daughter, Kate, is the wife of George Saltsman, of Bloomington, Ill.; George is living in this township; Henry, our subject, is the third child; John is in this township, and Rosa is the wife of Daniel Longman, a resident of Panola Township. About 1857 the Krug family, leaving New England, came to Illinois and settled first in Panola Village, when it was in its embryo state. The father for a time thereafter, was in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Finally he was enabled to purchase forty acres of land which is now included in the farm occupied by our subject, and which he secured from the above-named company. He was prospered in bringing this to a good state of cultivation, and as soon as able doubled the amount of his land. It was only by the most persevering industry and the closest economy, that he

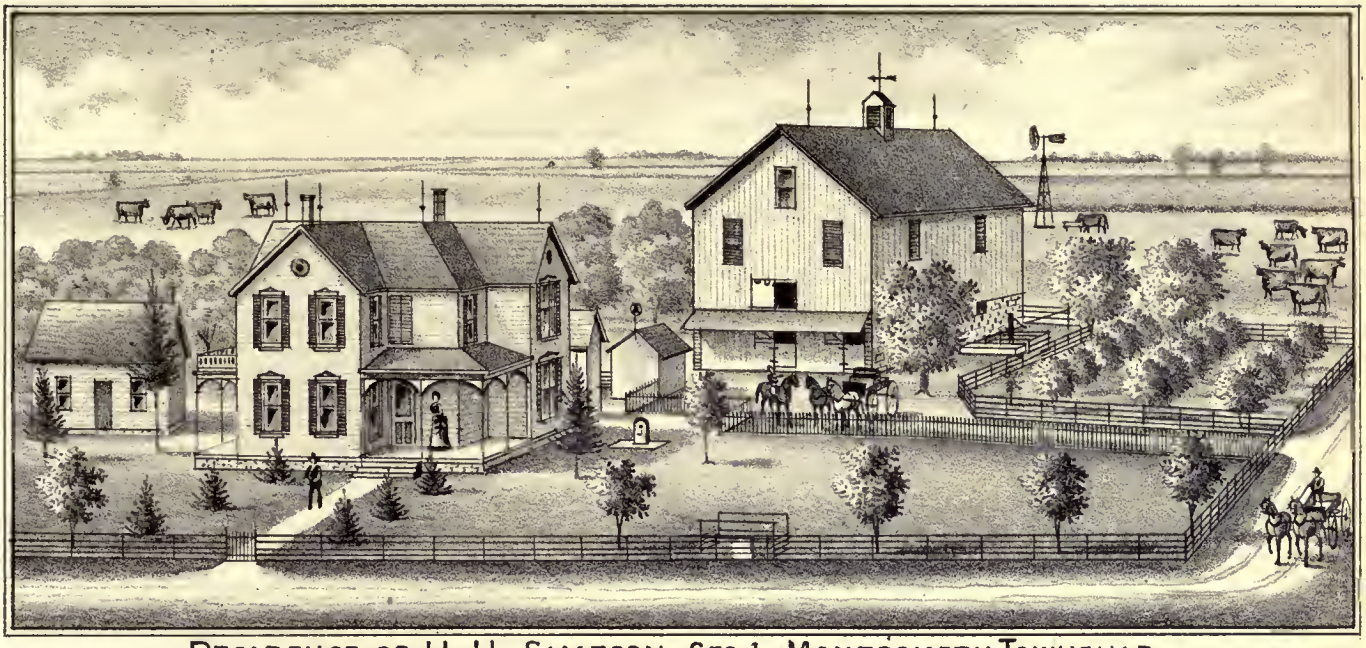
managed to make both ends meet, sowing and harvesting his crops and paying for his land. He is still living to enjoy the fruits of his labors. Politically, he votes the Democratic ticket, and in his religious views believes in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, with which he has been connected for many years.

Our subject developed into manhood under the parental roof, becoming familiar with the various pursuits of farm life, as carried on in the pioneer days, and receiving a limited education in the primitive schools. He remained a member of his father's household until desirous of establishing a home of his own and was then married Feb. 4, 1886, to Miss Lena Foskule. This lady was born May 27, 1868, in Panola, and is now the mother of two children—William Michael and Nellie J. The farm of our subject embraces 200 acres of thoroughly cultivated land which he purchased with the results of his early industry; by laboring early and late he has brought it to a good state of cultivation, and has established upon it the buildings required for the prosecution of agriculture in a successful manner. On another page of the ALBUM is presented a lithographic engraving of the pleasant home of our subject. Although having very little to do with public affairs, Mr. Krug uniformly casts his vote in support of the Democratic party. Aside from serving as School Director six years, he has declined the responsibilities of office. Possessing more than ordinary intelligence, he is a man who is looked up to in his community, and one whose opinions are generally respected. Comparatively young in years, he has before him a fair outlook, and hosts of friends who wish him well in all his undertakings.

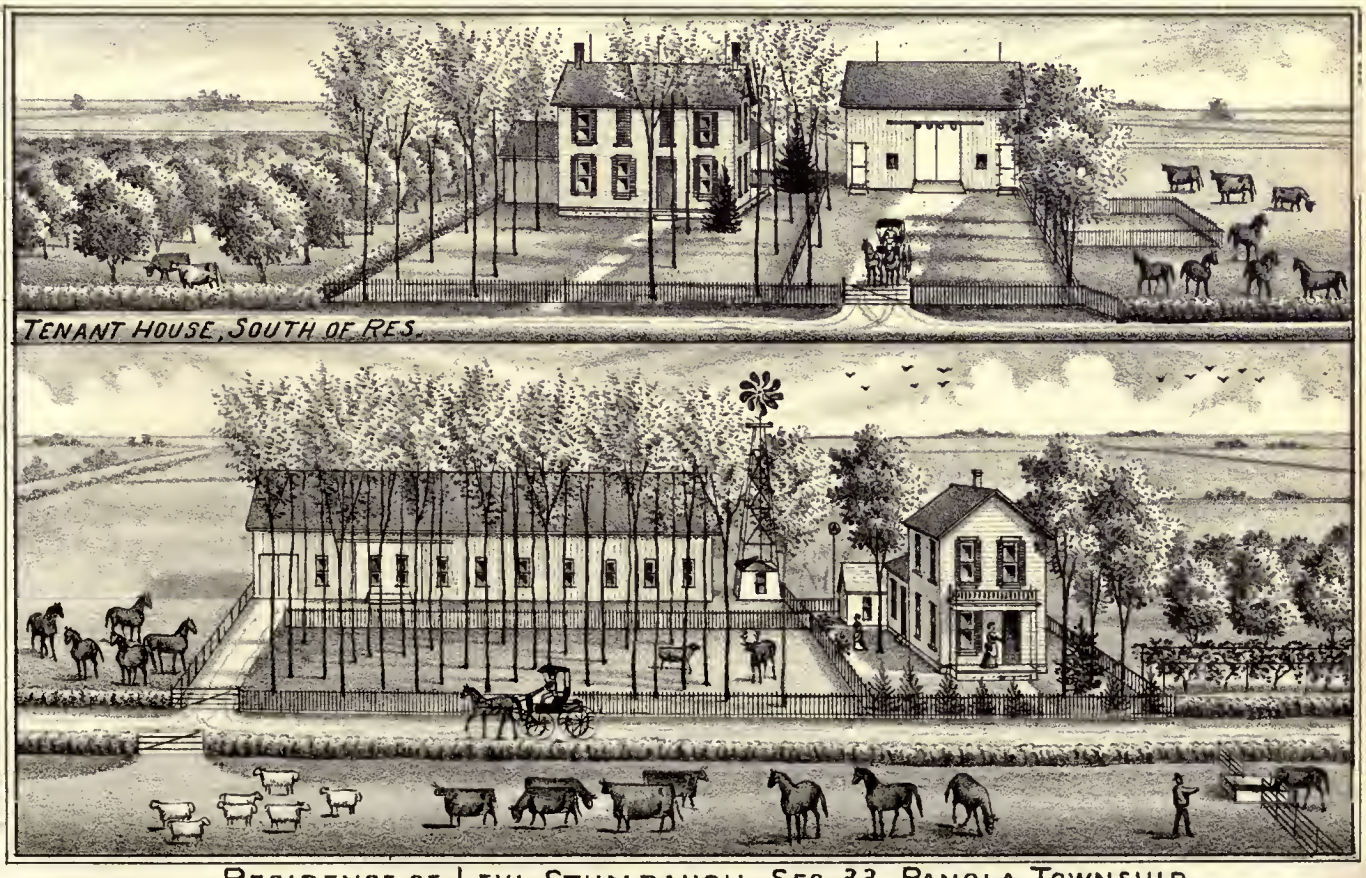
HENRY H. SIMPSON, one of the well-to-do farmers and stock-raisers of Montgomery Township, residing on section 1, is numbered among the early settlers of this county, where he has made his home for about thirty-eight years. The traditions of the family trace the ancestry back to Ireland. It was probably founded in America during the early Colonial days, and for several generations its members were residents of North Carolina. The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin Simpson, was a native of that State, and in the vicinity of his childhood home was reared and married, the lady of his choice being also a native of North Carolina. They began their wedded life in the community where their marriage was celebrated, and a large family of children graced their union. In the early part of the nineteenth century, probably between the years 1815 and 1820, Benjamin Simpson, accompanied by his family, emigrated to Indiana, locating in Putnam County, where he is numbered among the pioneer settlers. Purchasing a farm, he turned his attention to its development and continued its cultivation until his death, which occurred at the age of threescore years and ten. His wife afterward became a resident of Illinois, making her home in the family of her son Jacob for some years. She then went to Howard County, Ind., where she spent the remainder of her days, dying at the home of her second son, Zimmerah, when eighty years of age. Both Mr. and Mrs. Simpson were members of the Baptist Church, and were faithful and consistent Christian people.

Jacob Simpson, father of our subject, was the eldest child of the family. When a lad he accompanied his parents to Indiana, and in Putnam County attained his majority. He there married Miss Sarah Neff, a native of Ohio and daughter of Adam and Margaret (McIntosh) Neff, who were also born in the Buckeye State. For many years her father followed farming in his native county but at length removed to Putnam County. After a residence of some years in that community, they came to Woodford County, Ill., and later made their home in Clay County, where the death of both parents occurred. They were also followers of the Baptist Church.

Jacob Simpson for some years after his marriage resided in Putnam County, where a family of six children, four sons and two daughters, were born of his union with Miss Neff. In 1851, accompanied by his family, he came to Illinois and cast his lot with the early settlers of Woodford County.



RESIDENCE OF H. H. SIMPSON, SEC. 1. MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF LEVI STUMBAUGH, SEC. 33. PANOLA TOWNSHIP.

Locating on a farm on section 36, Montgomery Township, he followed agricultural pursuits for a number of years. The wife and mother was not long permitted to enjoy her new home, for in 1853, two years after their arrival, she was called to her final rest, dying at the age of thirty-five years. She was a woman of excellent character, and like the other members of the family had embraced the faith of the Baptist Church. Mr. Simpson was twice afterward married. By his second union the family circle was increased by the birth of four children, and by his present wife he has one child. On removing from Illinois he settled in Arkansas, where he made his home for nine years, then became a resident of the Cherokee Nation, in the Indian Territory, where he has now resided for six years. At this writing he is seventy-six years of age but enjoys comparatively good health.

H. H. Simpson, of this sketch, was born in Putnam County, Ind., June 25, 1840, and is the second in order of birth in a family of six children. He was a lad of eleven years when his parents removed to Woodford County, which from that time has been his home. The prairies were then wild and uncultivated, the few settlements were widely scattered, the cities were mere hamlets and the county seemed just emerging from its primitive condition. The farm on which the family located had not yet been broken nor had any improvements been made. The days of his boyhood and youth were passed under the parental roof, but on attaining his majority he left home and began life's battle for himself. Though he had but little capital with which to embark in business he is now one of the extensive land-owners of the county, 389 acres paying tribute to his care and cultivation. Of that amount 220 acres are comprised in the home farm, while a 47-acre tract, also in Montgomery Township, is numbered among his possessions, and he owns 102 acres in Olio Township. In connection with general farming he devotes considerable attention to the raising of fine stock, which he feeds and ships to foreign markets. His entire business career has been marked with honesty and fair dealing, and his success is due to his industry, energy and perseverance, supplemented by good business ability.

Mr. Simpson was joined in wedlock with Miss Mary Galbraith, who was born in Olio Township in 1836. Her parents, Andrew and Jane (Gayley) Galbraith, were natives of Maryland and came to Woodford County at an early day. The mother died at her home in Olio Township at the age of forty years. Mr. Galbraith was a second time married, and afterwards removed to Livingston County, where he died at the age of seventy-two years. The parents were both members of the Methodist Church. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, but three are now deceased, namely: Clara, Charley and one who died in infancy. William, the only living child, was educated in Eureka College, and is now assisting his father in the labors of the farm. In 1871 Mr. Simpson purchased the pleasant home of the family, and with the exception of four years spent in Eureka, they have since resided here. The household is noted for its hospitality, and by their many friends they are held in high regard. Mr. Simpson and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are active workers in the Master's vineyard. He is Superintendent of the Sunday-school and is a faithful laborer for its interest and success. In political sentiment he supports the Republican party and is a warm advocate of its principles. A lithographic view of Mr. Simpson's residence appears elsewhere in this volume.

THOMAS CORBLY. There is probably not within the limits of El Paso Township a more thorough and skillful farmer than the subject of this sketch. He has labored upon the theory put forth by Horace Greeley that a moderate area of land well cultivated is more prolific of good results than a large area partially neglected. He has a snug farm of eighty acres in El Paso Township, section 28, to which he has given the best efforts of the last twenty years, and has reason to feel proud of his achievements.

A native of County Meath, Ireland, our subject was born in 1835, and when a small child came

with his mother, Ellen (Hanley) Corbly, to Ameriea. John Corbly, father of our subjeet, was a farmer by oeeupation, and died in his native Ireland early in life. After emigrating to Ameriea, the mother, with her ehildren, loeated in Morris County, N .J., where she spent the remainder of her life, dying in 1863, when about sixty years old. Thomas sojourned in New Jersey until 1856, and then eame to the West, and in 1861 loeated in El Paso Township, of whieh he has since been a resident.

Mr. Corbly began the battle of life at a very early age, working on a farm in New Jersey, and acquiring those habits of industry whieh have led him to sueeess in later life. He eame to Illinois a single man, but in 1859 was married, in Bloomington, to Miss Margaret Dempsey. This lady was, like himself, a native of Ireland, and born about 1835. When a ehild of twelve years she eame to the United States with her mother, her father having died in Ireland. The family lived for a time in Pennsylvania, and then coming to Illinois, loeated in Hudson Township, MeLean County. The mother subsequently removed to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Corbly, where her death took plaee in 1885, after she had reaehed the advaneed age of ninety years. Both she and her husband were Catholies in religion, as were also the Corblys.

Soon after their marriage our subjeet and his wife settled on a farm in MeLean County, which Mr. Corbly operated as a renter until he eould make a purehase. He first seeured eighty aeres, upon which he has sinee operated, beginning from first prineiples in the eonstruetion of a farm. It was a wild, unbroken tract of prairie without a building or any feneing, and it is hardly neeessary to state that in bringing it to its present eondition there has been employed a large amount of labor, time and money. Eaeh year, however, saw Mr. Corbly making headway, and he is now enabled to rest upon his oars and view with satisfaetion the result of his labors.

The four ehildren born to Mr. and Mrs. Corbly are reeorded as follows: John W. married Miss Margaret MeGaw, of Kappa, and they live on a farm in Gridley Township; Peter M. pursued his studies at Cape Girardeau, Mo., and at Kankakee, Ill., intending to enter the ministry, but later abandoned it, and is now employed as a maehinist in Bloomington; Mary is the wife of John Cleary, and they live on a farm in MeLean County; Ann remains at home with her parents. The latter and all the ehildren belong to the Catholie Church. Mr. Corbly votes the Demoeratie tieket, and has held most of the loeal offiees. He is numbered among the substantial residents of his township, and has contributed his full share to her growth and development.

JOHN SPENCER. Few people sojourning very long in Olio Township fail to recognize this gentleman as one of its most prominent eitizens. He has been a useful man in his eommunity, contributing his quota to its progress and prosperity, diseharging the duties of the loeal offiees, Sehool Direetor, Trustee and Road Commissioner, and, with his wife and ehildren, is prominently identified with the Christian Chureh. Politieally, he is an ardent supporter of the Republiean party. The homestead forms one of the most attraetive spots in this part of the eounty and comprises 120 aeres of prime land under a thorough state of eultivation, while he has eighty aeres elsewhere.

Mr. Spenеer settled on his present plaee in the fall of 1864, and has himself effeeted most of the improvements whieh are now observable. He has neat and substantial buildings, a goodly assortment of live stoek and the requisite farm maehinery for earrying on agrieulture in a profitable manner. His family eonsists of his wife and four interesting ehildren, the latter named respeetively, Thomas, Aliee, Fanny and Minnie. Two ehildren, Ella and Hannah, died when young; Thomas married Miss Clara Bullock, and lives in Elm Creek, Neb.; Alice is the wife of Charles Gresham: Fanny married Thomas E. Shaw and Minnie is the wife of William Blaneliard. The mother of these ehildren, with whom he was united in marriage on the 9th of August, 1855, in this eounty, was formerly Miss Mary Jane Tool. Her parents were John J. and Eliza-

beth Tool, who were born in Virginia and came to this county in 1831. They settled in the neighborhood of Metamora, where they spent their last days, both being now deceased. Mrs. Spencer was born four miles from Washington in Tazewell County, Feb. 6, 1836.

The father of our subject was Thomas Spencer, a native of Worcester, Yorkshire, England. He came to America early in life, about 1829, and making his way directly to Illinois, settled first in Morgan County. He engaged in farming and made the acquaintance of a maiden of his own country, Miss Hannah Norwood, to whom in due time he was married. The young people settled on a farm in Morgan County, where the husband died when his son, our subject, was only six years old. The mother was subsequently married the second time and is now a resident of Jacksonville, this State.

John Spencer was born in Morgan County, Ill., Dec. 4, 1831. His boyhood and youth was spent in the manner of most farmers' sons, he attending the district school mostly during the winter season and in summer assisted in the various employments of the farm, becoming thoroughly familiar with the duties connected therewith. He remained a resident of his native county until the spring of 1855, then came to this county where he has since resided, with the exception of two years spent in Tazewell County, and three years in Morgan. Farming is congenial to his tastes, and the pure air of the country has built up a vigorous frame comparatively free from the ills which frequently fall to the lot of man. As a citizen who has exerted a good influence upon those around him and given his support to every worthy object, the life of Mr. Spencer may with propriety be called a success.

JOHN L. PATTON, a prosperous farmer of Greene Township and one of its prominent citizens, who resides on section 24, is the owner of 246 acres of valuable land, 160 of which is situated on section 23 while the remaining eighty-six acres is located on section 24. His farm is nicely laid out and has been his home since 1869. The many improvements which he has made are both useful and beautiful. His residence is a neat and tasty dwelling, the buildings are all that are necessary to a model farm, the home is surrounded by flowering shrubs and shade and ornamental trees, and an orchard and vineyard have been planted. The neat surroundings and the well tilled fields indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is recognized as one of the leading and progressive farmers of Woodford County.

Mr. Patton was born in Dunkard Township, Greene Co., Pa., on the 29th day of February, 1836, and is a son of S. R. and Jane (Haynes) Patton, the former born in Northumberland, Pa., in 1805, while the latter was a native of Greene County. The great-grandfather of our subject, John Patton, was born in Delaware, where his father, the progenitor of the family in America, located during the early Colonial days. He was reared in his native State, and was a minister by profession but also followed the occupation of farming. He belonged to the Primitive Baptist Church and was a prominent preacher of that faith. His ministerial duties at length called him from his home in Delaware, to Northumberland County, and in 1809 he removed to Fayette County, Pa. His death occurred in the eastern part of the Keystone State. His son James Patton also followed the ministry and in connection worked at the carpenter's trade. He, too, was born in Delaware, but became a resident of Eastern Pennsylvania. He died in Greene County, Pa.

The father of our subject, S. R. Patton, was reared to manhood in his native State and on attaining his majority was united in marriage with Jane Haynes. Eleven children were born of their union, but two died in infancy, Caleb and Joshua, who were twins. The other members of the family were Elizabeth, Mary, James, John, Lucinda, Margaret, Catherine, Martha E. and George W. In 1851, accompanied by his family, Mr. Patton left his Pennsylvania home for the West. Boarding a small boat, they proceeded to Pittsburg, Pa., where they transferred to a larger vessel and sailed down the Ohio River and up the Mississippi to St. Louis, whence they came up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to La-

con and thence by teams to Woodford County, and two years later settled on the farm upon which our subject now makes his home. The mother of the family was called to her final rest Sept. 13, 1870, at the age of sixty-one years. Mr. Patton was afterwards again married, his second union being with Cynthian Probasco, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. She died in January, 1884. Like his father and grandfather, he is a member of the Baptist Church and a firm believer in predestination as taught by the followers of the primitive church.

In his native county our subject spent his boyhood days until fifteen years of age, when he came with the family to Woodford County. His school life was begun in Greene County, Pa., but he completed his education in the schools of this community. In 1863 he was joined in wedlock with Miss Louisa Livingston, a daughter of Lewis and Amy (Powell) Livingston, who emigrated to Illinois at an early day and located in Tazewell County, whence they removed to Woodford County. Both parents were natives of Loudoun County, Va. The father died at his home in this neighborhood in 1871, at the age of sixty-four years, but his wife is still living at the age of seventy-four years, and makes her home in Hoopeston, Vermilion Co., Ill. They were parents of ten children, namely: Pleasant, Mary, Louisa, Joseph, William, Euphema, Sarel, Oscar, Charles and James.

Mrs. Patton was born in Tazewell County, and was a maiden of fourteen years when her parents settled in this county, where she became acquainted with and married Mr. Patton. They began their domestic life on the farm upon which they now reside and which has since been their home with the exception of four years spent on a farm in Panola Township. Three children graced their union, two of whom are now living, Frank R. and Arthur L., who are still with their parents. William Leslie, their first born, died when a babe of eight months. Both parents are members of the primitive Baptist Church, and are ranked among the best citizens in the community where they have so long made their home. Mrs. Patton is a most estimable lady, intelligent and refined, and possesses many excellencies of character, which commend her to the confidence and high regard of all. She is ever ready to extend a helping hand to the poor and needy, and is greatly beloved for her many acts of kindness.

Mr. Patton is numbered among the self-made men of Woodford County. To his own efforts may be attributed his success in life. He was without capital when he left the parental roof, but by industry, economy and perseverance, supplemented by good business ability, has secured a competency and is numbered among the prosperous farmers of the township. In politics he is a Democrat and has held various local offices of trust. He filled the office of School Director, and from 1881 until 1887 was Supervisor; he was Chairman of the Board two years in succession. It is needless to say that he proved an efficient officer, as his long continued service indicates that fact. He discharged his duties with credit to himself and in a manner highly satisfactory to his constituents. His cordial, genial manner and gentlemanly deportment have made him very popular in social circles, and his sterling worth and strict integrity, have won him the confidence and good wishes of all with whom he has come in contact.

PETER D. SCHERTZ, dealer in grain and lumber, is one of the most intelligent and enterprising of the leading business men of Metamora, and he and his partner, his brother-in-law, Peter Schertz, have an extensive and flourishing trade throughout the county and even beyond its limits. Our subject is a native of this county, born in Worth Township June 26, 1848, his father, David Schertz, having been an early settler there. He was a native of France, as was his father, Joseph Schertz, who came to America in 1837, and was a pioneer of Worth Township, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying at a ripe old age. The father of our subject was a young man when he came to this country and became an early settler of Worth Township. He bought a tract of timbered land there, and built a log house in which his children were born. He was

a hard worker, and managed to clear quite a tract of his land ere his premature death, in the month of January, 1851, cut short his useful career while he was yet in the prime and vigor of life. He left his widow with five children, of whom the following is recorded: Christian is a farmer in Roanoke Township; Magdalena is the wife of John Smith, of Metamora Township; Elizabeth is the wife of John Schertz, of Roanoke Township; Peter D., the subject of this sketch; Joseph is a farmer in Roanoke Township.

When the father of our subject died, the eldest son, Christian, went to live with an uncle for two years, but the mother managed to keep the remaining members of the family together, and on Christian's return he and the others, as soon as large enough, carried on the farm that remained in the possession of the family until 1875, and then it was sold, and the good mother made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Smith, until her death. Our subject lived on the home farm until it was sold, assisting in its management, and then, in 1875, bought a farm in Metamora Township, and was prosperously engaged in farming until 1887. The farm is finely located on section 13, and comprises 160 acres of exceedingly fertile soil, under good tillage, and supplied with all the modern improvements, including a neat set of buildings. In the year just mentioned Mr. Schertz rented his farm and moved into Metamora for the purpose of engaging in the lumber and grain business with his brother-in-law, Peter Schertz, and they have successfully carried on the same ever since. They conduct their business by legitimate methods, and have already gained a large trade.

Mr. Schertz and Miss Ann Schertz were united in marriage in 1874. She is, like himself, a native of Worth Township, a daughter of Joseph and Annie Schertz. (For parental history see sketch of Peter Schertz.) The pleasant household circle of our subject and his wife is completed by the four children that have been born to them, namely, Benjamin, Annie, Peter, Harry.

Mr. Schertz is a man of intelligence and ability, and his judgment in regard to business matters is keen and far-seeing. His success in life is attributable to the fact that he always pays close attention to his affairs. His credit is good and he stands high in financial circles. His friendly, genial manner, willingness to oblige, and other agreeable social qualities make him popular among his associates, and have won him many warm friends. He is influential in the community, and his enterprise is beneficial to the commercial interests of the city. In politics he affiliates with the Republican party. Religiously, he and his wife are worthy members of the Mennonite Church.

MICAJAH STAMPER PHILLIPS. The name of this eminently good man and highly respected citizen, will long be held in kindly remembrance by a large number of the older citizens of Woodford County, as one representing some of the best elements of human character. He was born in Wayne County, Ky., Dec. 19, 1829, and died at his home on section 3 in Panola Township, Aug. 20, 1887. He had been for many years a sufferer from cancer of the cheek, but it is a comfort to his friends to remember that his last hours were comparatively painless.

Perhaps we cannot do better than to extract from a letter of his brother, Isaac N. Phillips, something pertaining to the personal history of our subject, and also to his qualities of character as a son, brother, husband, father and citizen. His second name was given him in honor of Jonathan Stamper, a distinguished minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, whom the parents had heard upon one occasion amid the hills of Kentucky, and whose discourse impressed them greatly. When the child was ten months old, the heroic mother carried him in her arms on horseback in the tedious emigration of the family to Illinois, which occurred in October, 1830. Senator Shelby M. Cullom, then also a babe in arms, was of the same party on that memorable journey. The Phillips family settled in what is now the northern part of Tazewell County, three and one-half miles south of the present village of Washington, and at the age of one year Stamper's wondering eyes looked through the

chinks of a rude log cabin upon the historic deep snow of Illinois. His early years were spent literally in the wilderness, amid the scenes which "tried men's souls."

Growing up amid such surroundings, the opportunities of young Phillips for an education were of course meager. He acquired "more strength than polish—more sense than education"; but he was a diligent reader concerning men and events, and was not without that sturdy independence of thought which is sometimes wanting in those more favored of fortune. If, however, pioneer life in Illinois did not favor technical book education, it favored in a high degree the formation of a good character. Stamper was rigidly and scrupulously honest. No farthing that was not his own lingered in his hand, and in this respect he was one of those who stand, so to speak, above the law. All who came near to the inner circle of his life, and especially those of his immediate family, can bear witness to the greatness of the satisfaction he took in doing good to others and making them happy. He was slow to anger, but courageous in the defense of right. When, however, his anger was once thoroughly aroused it fell little short of being terrible. Perhaps his highest endowment was courage, using that term in the broader and better sense which includes fortitude and strength of will. Particularly was this exemplified in his last illness. Struggling for years in the grasp of a mysterious and horrible disease, which wore away, inch by inch, the magnificent fabric of his constitution, he bore his hard lot without repining, making, while hope lasted, a valiant struggle for life, and when hope failed, meeting his fate with unflinching bravery. In the evil day when no resource was left him but courage, his heroism was equal to the emergency.

In the spring of 1861 Mr. Phillips came to his late home with his wife and one or two of their children. He purchased eighty acres of land, labored industriously, and in the course of time added forty acres more to his possessions. As a neighbor or friend his life was blameless, and passed in a comparatively uneventful manner until the approach of the dread disease to which he fell a victim. The funeral services were conducted at the house by Revs. North and Steele in the presence of a very large congregation, the most of which followed the remains to their place of sepulture in Baughman Cemetery, one and one-fourth miles away, making a procession probably half a mile long.

On the 31st of December, 1857, occurred the marriage of Micajah S. Phillips and Mrs. Elmira (Frederick) Corder. This lady was born in Schuylkill County, Pa., July 16, 1833, and is the daughter of Daniel and Hannah (Maurer) Frederick, likewise natives of the Keystone State. Mrs. Phillips when a child of eleven years removed with her parents to Pickaway County, Ohio, where she was reared to womanhood, and was first married, July 18, 1854, to Jackson Corder, by whom she became the mother of one child, Mary E., now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Corder came to Illinois the year after their marriage, settling in Tazewell County, and the death of Mr. Corder occurred about nine days later.

To Mr. and Mrs. Phillips there were born nine children, six of whom are living, viz: Alfred; Rosa, the wife of Joseph Engel, of Clay County, Kan.; Dora, Mrs. Oscar Besett, of St. Louis, Mo.; Lulu, Lottie and Ezra S. The deceased are Emma, Lydia and Frank. Mrs. Phillips continues to occupy the homestead left her by her husband, having her children with her.

The parents of our subject were Alfred and Susan Phillips. One brother, Isaac N., is an eminent lawyer of Bloomington. Another brother, James, lives near Morton, in this State, and his sister, Mrs. Banta, is a resident of Eureka, Ill. John T. lives in McLean County, and Edward resides in Louisburgh, Kan.

THOMAS SUTTON, veterinary surgeon and farmer, was reared in the moorlands and hilly districts of the Wolds, in East Riding, Yorkshire, England. He was born June 10, 1815, to John and Susan (Killam) Sutton, also natives of Yorkshire, England. The father was a farmer of untiring industry, and Thomas early learned to assist him in the work. In the meantime he received

such limited education as the school facilities of that time afforded. Mr. John Sutton was a kind, indulgent father, ever endeavoring to prepare his children for their place in life's battles. He and his wife were prominent people in their native county, and were universally respected by all who knew them. They died where they had for so many years made their home, the father when about sixty-five years of age, while the mother survived him until she was seventy years old, when she too passed to rest. In their live-time they had been consistent members of the Primitive Methodist Church, and were every ready to listen to the pleading voices of the wronged and suffering. Thus benevolent and philanthropic, they made their lives sweet by self-devotion and self-restraint.

Thomas Sutton, our subject, upon arriving at an age to enter upon the work of his life, became a railroad contractor, which occupied his time for ten years. In this line of work he was very proficient, and considered one of the best men in that respect in all his native county. He married Miss Harriet Scales, like himself a native of East Riding, Yorkshire, and born Feb. 11, 1820. Mrs. Sutton was the only daughter in her father's family, and had three brothers, Edward, who lives in Australia; William and George. William was a minister in the Methodist Church for a great many years, and did much good in his chosen work, but has retired from active labor and now resides on Lake Ontario, in Canada. The other brother, George, lived in England, married there, and finally died, leaving a family, most of whom are in this country.

After marriage Mr. Sutton commenced to work in earnest, and has by severe and protracted efforts accomplished much in the way of becoming financially independent. Becoming discouraged in England, and hearing of the prosperity of emigrants to the United States, he took his family and came to this country. They took passage on the steamer "Sarah Sands," Dec. 1, 1852. Leaving the famed shores of Albion for the new country so alluringly described to them, they landed at Portland, Me., after a very pleasant and fair voyage. From Portland they made their way across the border into Canada, and in the Province of Quebec our subject found work as a railroad construction contractor. This occupied his time for the succeeding two years, when he settled in Morgan County, Ill. In 1855 he came to this county, locating first near Metamora, the county seat, and there lived three years. He also resided for a time in Olio Township, at Walnut Grove. But it is his present farm which represents his first purchase of land. It is situated on section 23, in Palestine Township, and includes 160 acres of fine land, all under good cultivation, and having substantial farm buildings, and a comfortable residence. This has been his home since the year 1864, when he bought it in an uncultivated, unbroken condition.

It has been truly said that,

> "Into each life some rain must fall,
> Some days must be dark and dreary."

Mr. Sutton's life has not proven to be an exception to the general rule. The hitherto happy household was plunged into the depths of sorrow by the death of the wife and mother. She passed to rest at her home, Aug. 4, 1875, when she was fifty-five years of age. It is a rather striking coincidence in the family history that her death occurred at the same age when her parents also were called to rest. She was a good woman, a kind, devoted mother and wife, and highly esteemed by the neighborhood in which she resided.

Mr. and Mrs. Sutton were the parents of nine children, of whom four are deceased; William, who died in England; Harriet A., Edward, and George, who died in this country. The latter was married and left six children. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Sutton who are now living, are as follows: John, who married Mary Render, and lives in Kansas Township, this county; Thomas W., who chose as his wife Margaret C. Bevis, and is a farmer of Palestine Township; Mary, who was united in marriage with E. Durth, a resident of Kansas Township, this county; Elizabeth and Samuel, who are at home. Mr. Sutton is a member of the Methodist Church, to the maintenance of which he has contributed liberally of his means, and is always willing to give his time and money to aid any project calculated to benefit the county and the people. He and his sons are strong Democrats, and uniformly vote that

ticket, and assist in the election of the nominees of that party. In the leading circles of the county Mr. Sutton and his refined family are ever welcomed as respected citizens, and cultured representatives of the worth of the community. He is related to many of the best families in Illinois; some of his relatives settling west of Jacksonville, including the Richardson and Killam families, and others equally influential.

Mrs. Thomas Sutton, wife of our subject was a daughter of William and Mary (Oldgate) Scales, who were born in Lincolnshire, England. After they were married they removed to Yorkshire, and there Mr. Scales founded a smithy, and worked at his trade until his death. He survived his wife ten years. In religious matters they were Wesleyan Methodists, and were faithful to the principles expounded by the devout and sainted founder of that sect.

GEORGE THORPE, SR., silent partner in the firm of Thorpe & Sons, is numbered among the solid men of Woodford County, and one who has been largely instrumental in bringing it to its present position as representing a high degree of intelligence and prosperity. A native of Derbyshire, England, he was born March 3, 1819, and received careful parental training and a good education in the common school. He was at an early age taught to make himself useful, and served a thorough apprenticeship as a successful general mechanic, becoming an expert in the handling of tools. This, with his habits of industry and frugality, laid the foundation of his future success in life.

This branch of the Thorpe family is of pure English stock, and the father of our subject was William Thorpe, a Yorkshireman by birth, and the son of George Thorpe, who followed the trade of a carpenter. The latter when a young man made a trip to America about 100 years ago, and spent one year in the city of Philadelphia, Pa. He, however, was warmly attached to the old country, to which he finally returned, and died there at the advanced age of ninety-two years. He married a lady of his own county, who, like her husband, was of remarkably strong constitution and possessed of great force of character. She, too, lived to be ripe in years, and spent her entire life in her native shire.

William Thorpe, the father of our subject, likewise learned the carpenter's trade, and worked as a general mechanic during his early manhood. Later, he became a contractor of considerable importance. When a young man he changed his residence to Glossop, in Derbyshire, where he was married to Miss Elizabeth Boden. This lady was the daughter of a Derbyshire farmer, James Boden by name, whose chief characteristic was sturdy honesty and industry, by which he maintained his family comfortably, and was universally respected. William Thorpe after his marriage sojourned in Glossop until a man of forty-two years, when he was accidentally shot dead by the game-keeper of the Duke of Norfolk. The wife and mother after the melancholy death of her husband went to live with her son, John Thorpe, in the city of Manchester, where she died, at the age of seventy-five years.

In England the Thorpe family were mostly Wesleyan Methodists. To the parents of our subject there were born eight children, six of whom lived to mature years and were married. George was the first of the family to set foot on American soil, he making the journey in 1841, when twenty-two years old. He embarked from Liverpool on the sailing-vessel "Constantine," which landed him in New Orleans after a voyage of six weeks and four days. From the Crescent City he made his way to Peoria, this State, and began in earnest the struggle before him to maintain existence and obtain something for the future. Being a stranger in a strange place, he felt great need of companionship and of a home, and in due time formed the acquaintance of Miss Eliza Morris, which resulted in their marriage, Oct. 16, 1842.

Mrs. Thorpe was born in Lancashire, England, July 11, 1821, and is the daughter of James and Ann (Manock) Morris, who were natives of the same county as their daughter, and were descendants of an old family who had long been residents

of that locality. Differing somewhat from the Thorpes in their religious views, they were strong adherents of the Episcopal Church. James Morris and his wife, with most of their children, finally set out from their home in Haywood, England, for Liverpool, and there took passage in the early part of February. 1841, for the New World. After a voyage of six weeks on a sailing-vessel, they landed in New York City, and thence came directly to Peoria, Ill. The father secured a tract of land, and began farming, but died in less than a year after his emigration, at the age of sixty-eight years. The mother after coming to this country identified herself with the Methodist Church. She died when sixty-nine years old.

The wife of our subject, like her brothers and sisters, was carefully reared and well educated, and remained under the parental roof until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born seven children, three of whom, James, Annie and Henry, are deceased. The latter was taken from the home circle when a bright boy of twelve years; the others died in early childhood. Of the survivors, the record is as follows: William married Miss Addie Smith, and is connected with the hardware business at El Paso; George married Miss Annie Engle, and also belongs to the firm; Mary is the wife of John Engle, and lives on a farm in Panola Township; Joseph Albert is unmarried, and living with his parents. The parents and children all belong to the Methodist Church. Our subject, upon becoming a naturalized citizen, identified himself with the Republican party, to which he gives his unqualified support.

Mr. Thorpe, upon coming to Peoria, May 20, 1841, found a city of 1,100 inhabitants, and, as soon as possible, secured employment at his trade of a carpenter. He soon began taking contracts, and later, being a pattern-maker and a foundry workman, was employed for some time in a machine shop at that place. He lived in Peoria County until the year 1869, and then changed his residence to Woodford County. In the meantime he had also operated as a farmer for a period of ten years. He is now the owner of 400 acres in Panola Township, and in Livingston County adjoining, which he purchased in 1869, and where he made his home until removing to El Paso in 1883. Since the latter date he has been partially retired from active business, while he keeps a general oversight of it, and gives to his sons the benefit of his experience. He owns a good farm in Peoria County, and some good property in the city. He also has property in Brimfield, Peoria County, and in Minonk, this county. He has been a Director of the El Paso National Bank since its organization.

Without question, Mr. Thorpe has been one of the most successful men of his vicinity. The enforced industry and frugality of his early years, although perhaps seeming severe at the time, developed within him a self-reliance and strength of character which has served him well later in life. The firm of Thorpe & Sons succeeded W. A. Johnson in August, 1885, and have conducted the business with much success. In addition to a full stock of hardware, tinware and stoves, they deal in McCormick Reapers and Mowers, and receive a generous patronage from the farmers around. Their correct business methods and promptness in meeting their obligations have commended them to the business men of El Paso and vicinity, as well as to its residents generally. They occupy a neat and comfortable home in the northeastern part of the city, where their cultivated tastes and ample means have drawn around them all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

DAVID SNYDER, a native of Ohio, has for many years been intimately connected with the farming interests of Woodford County, more especially of Roanoke Township, the place of his residence, whose growth and prosperity he has greatly promoted. He owns a large, well ordered farm in this township, which is classed among the best in this part of the county.

Our subject was born Dec. 20, 1820, ten miles northeast of the town of Chillicothe, in Ross County, Ohio. His father, John Snyder, is supposed to have been born in Westmoreland County, Pa., and was there reared and married, Elizabeth

Campf, a native of that State, becoming his wife. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to Ohio, and were pioneers of Ross County, buying a tract of timbered land, on which the father erected a log house, which was the birthplace of our subject. Having no cook stove the mother used to cook by the open fire, and she spun and wove wool and flax, and taught her daughters those useful arts, and they used to manufacture all the cloth used in the family. Mr. Snyder cleared a farm from the primeval forests of Ohio, and was a resident there till death claimed him, as was also his wife; both died on the old homestead. To those worthy people were born twelve children, eleven of whom grew to maturity: Catherine, Margaret, Elizabeth, Anthony, Mathias, Barbara, Christiana, John, David, Conrad, Henry.

David Snyder grew to man's estate in his native county, remaining an inmate of the parental household till he was twenty-one. At that age he started out in life for himself, finding employment by the day or month, and receiving payment at the rate of $9 a month, and worked in this way for some years.

In 1848 he engaged in driving cattle from Ohio across the mountains to Philadelphia and New York, receiving as compensation a dollar a day and board for himself and horse. He made two trips that year and three in 1849, and three trips in 1850. In the fall of 1850 he came to Illinois, having been employed by one of his neighbors to drive a team from Ohio to Bloomington. He spent that winter in McLean County, working at chopping wood and cutting down trees, and in the spring of 1851 came to Woodford County, and in the month of March made his first purchase of land, comprising the northwestern part of section 6, Roanoke Township, for which he paid $2.50 an an acre. It was a tract of wild prairie land, and he at once entered upon the task of improving it, though he did not settle on it till 1853. After that he resided on it till 1883, and had besides developing it into a fine farm, bought 320 acres more land adjoining it. In 1883 he rented a part of his farm, and moving to Greene Township, he bought 240 acres of good farming land there. Five years later he sold that place and returned to his Roanoke farm, and has ever since resided here. It has been his pleasure to witness the gradual development of this township and the surrounding country from its primitive wildness, and not only that, but he has helped not a little in advancing it to its present prosperity as a wealthy agricultural community. There were but few habitations when he first came here, and prairie wolves, deer and other animals roamed over the wild prairies that have since become valuable farms.

Mr. Snyder and Miss Mary Whittaker were united in marriage March 29, 1871, and to them have been born six children: John, David L., Howard L., Thomas B., Anthony K.; a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, died at the age of about nine years. Mrs. Snyder was born in Greene County, Pa., a daughter of John and Rebecca (Hammers) Whittaker, natives of Pennsylvania. His father, Thomas Whittaker, was born in Ireland, and after coming to America he had settled in Little York, where he engaged in teaching school, and also served several terms as Justice of the Peace of that place, spending his last years there. He was a devout member of the Episcopal Church. Mrs. Snyder's grandmother spent her last years in Greene County, Pa,, and in Monongalia County, W. Va., dying in the latter county. The father of Mrs. Snyder lived in his native State until 1869, when he came to Woodford County, and settled first in Greene Township, but afterwards he came to Roanoke Township and resided here until his death. The maiden name of his wife, mother of Mrs. Snyder, was Rebecca Hammers, and she was a native of Greene County, Pa. Her father, Joseph Hammers, came from Pennsylvania to Illinois in 1847, coming by the way of the Monongahela, Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peoria, and thence to Greene Township. He bought a tract of partly improved land there and remained a resident of the county till death. The maiden name of his wife, Mrs. Snyder's grandmother, was Elizabeth Williams, and it is thought that she was born in Westmoreland County, Pa. She died at the home of a daughter in Cazenovia Township. Mrs. Snyder's mother died in Greene County, Pa.

The life record of our subject shows him to be a man of industrious habits, whose energetic, push-

ing disposition, combined with exeellent judgment and prudent thrift, have plaeed him among the most substantial of the well-to-do farmers of Roanoke Township. He is a man of striet morals and upright prineiples, true to his religious beliefs as a consistent member of the Methodist Episeopal Church. His amiable wife also belongs to that church.

ARTHUR LEE HEREFORD is editor of the Woodford *Sentinel*, and his facile pen and able management have made it one of the best and most popular newspapers in this part of the State. Our subjeet is a native of the county, born in Palestine Township, April 1, 1858. His father, Levan P. Hereford, a pioneer settler of Woodford County, was a Virginian by birth, born near the town of Leesburg, Loudoun County, March 3, 1815. His father, Ammon Hereford, is thought to have been a native of the same county, while his father, great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Herefordshire, England, and later in life, eoming to America with his family, bought a large traet of land in Virginia, and beeame the owner of a fine plantation and a large number of slaves. He passed the remainder of his life in his Virginia home. The grandfather of our subject served in the navy during the War of 1812, and never enjoyed good health after his experience of military life, but died a few years after leaving the marine serviee. The maiden name of his wife was Miss Virginia Powell. She was a native of Virginia, and a grandaughter of the illustrious Gen. Greene, of Revolutionary fame. She eame to Illinois with her children, and passed her last days in this State. The father of our subjeet was but nine years old when his father died, and he was reared by his grandparents after that event. He continued to live in old Virginia, among the pleasant scenes of his childhood, till 1836, when he joined the tide of emigration that was flowing westward, and eame to this State by those great highways of travel—the Ohio, Mississippi, and Illinois rivers—to Peoria, and thence to Tazewell County, to the part of it now embraced in Woodford County. He commenced life by working by the day or month, as chanee offered, and after he had saved money enough to buy an ox team, he went to Clark County, where he rented land, and farmed a little, and chopped wood. During his residence there, he made a few trips down the Mississippi River to New Orleans, with flatboats loaded with produce. On his arrival at that city he would sell the flatboats as well as the produee. In a few years he returned from Clark County to Washington, and buying a threshing machine, he operated it a part of each year, and the remainder of the time engaged in teaming. He used to take grain to Chieago, and on the return trip brought baek merehandise from that city. About 1852 he eame to Woodford County, and entered a tract of land in Palestine Township, a part of it lying near the village of Secor. He developed a good farm, and meeting with more than ordinary sueeess, he bought more land, and beeame quite wealthy. For some time he was agent for Isaae Underhill, a large land owner, of Peoria. He eontinued to reside in Secor till his demise, Dec. 23, 1876, when a valuable eitizen was lost to that plaee, one who had been instrumental in bringing about its prosperity. He was known and honored throughout the county, and took a prominent part in public affairs. He was an influential member of the County Board of Supervisors, and served as Chairman of that august body several terms. He took a lively interest in politics, and was one of the leaders of the Demoeratie party, and was a delegate to many county, district and State conventions. The maiden name of the mother of our subjeet was Louisa M. Powell, and she was born in Loudoun County, Va., a daughter of Mahlon and Johanna (Sehohagan) Powell. She is still living in Secor. She is the mother of eight children, seven of whom grew to maturity.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in Secor, and at the youthful age of seventeen he eommeneed teaching, and taught very sueeessfully the ensuing year. In 1876 he commeneed studying law with Judge Shaw, of Lacon, and in the fall of the same year he became a student at the Union College of Law at Chieago. He was graduated from that institution in the spring

of 1878, having gained a good knowledge of his profession, and was admitted to the bar at Mt. Vernon in 1879. He then went to the town of Clyde, Cloud Co., Kan., and opened an office, and was engaged in the practice of his profession there with very good success till the month of December, 1880. At that time he renounced law to enter the more inviting field of journalism, for which he has a decided taste, and returning to Woodford County, he bought the El Paso *Journal*. He was prosperously engaged in its management till January, 1885, and from that time till 1888 he was connected with the Chicago *Tribune* and *News*. In that year he became the editor of the Woodford *Sentinel*. Under his able editorship this paper is undoubtedly becoming an educator of the people, a guide in political matters and in public affairs. Through its columns our subject uses his influence to rouse public spirit, and promote all schemes for the benefit of the city or county.

Mr. Hereford is of an active temperament, is a keen observer of men and things, possesses marked literary talent, and bringing a well-trained mind to bear on his work, in the few short years since he entered the journalistic field, he has made a name for himself in the editorial world, and has placed himself among the most progressive members of his profession.

CALEB WYLIE GOODRICH. Among the honored and respected pioneers of Woodford County, no one is more deserving of mention in this biographical volume than this gentleman, whose recent death saddened the community, and was a blow to the business interests of Minonk, of which he was so many years a resident. He was born in Hancock, Berkshire Co., Mass., Oct. 22, 1811, being a son of Caleb and Hannah (Wylie) Goodrich, both of whom were natives of the Bay State. The Goodrich family originated in England, and our subject could trace the family record back to a William Goodrich, who came from there to the United States in 1640.

The subject of this brief biographical sketch, spent only the first five years of his life in Massachusetts, his parents moving in 1816 to Oneida County, N. Y., where he grew to man's estate. He learned the trades of a millwright and carpenter, and worked at them until the fall of 1854, when, with a view to bettering his financial condition, he came to Woodford County, and located on section 3, Minonk Township, where he remained until the following year. He then removed with his family to the place now occupied by his widow, on the present site of the city of Minonk, his being the second or third family to locate in this place. Mr. Goodrich embarked in the lumber business in company with James Parker continuing this for two years. He was also for a short time, during Buchanan's administration, Postmaster at Minonk. He afterward resumed his trade of a carpenter, following it for several years. He then engaged for a second time in the lumber business, and in 1874 admitted R. Newton into partnership continuing thus until 1878, when Mr. Goodrich again became sole proprietor, and carried on the business himself until the admission of his son, Frank H., into partnership, and the firm was afterward known as C. W. Goodrich & Son. In all his undertakings our subject met with good success, due mainly to excellent judgment, strict integrity, and careful attention to the minor details of his business, not even succumbing to the disasters that occurred during the panic of 1857, but paying his creditors 100 cents on the dollar, although he met with serious losses through his debtors. He took a genuine interest in the advancement and growth of his adopted town, and proved an important factor among the wise men who have given it a high standing and position, and in his death, which occurred after an illness of three years, May 29, 1889, his community lost in him a man who was in all respects one of its truest citizens, friendliest neighbors, and kindest and most devoted of husbands and fathers. Mr. Goodrich amassed a comfortable competency and at the time of his death owned 240 acres of land, which he purchased from the Government in 1854, beside his business and resident property in Minonk. He was very systematic in his ways, and during his whole life kept a diary, which is now a source of pleasure and profit to his family, and full

of valuable information for all. The last few weeks of his illness he was unable to use his pen, but his wife, at his request, kept a daily record of events for him. Although a man of unassuming and retiring disposition, he was widely known, and possessed a large circle of friends who esteemed him for his sterling worth. In politics, Mr. Goodrich was in early life a Whig, later a strong Republican, voting in 1840 for W. H. Harrison, and in 1888 for Benjamin Harrison. He never sought political honor, and allowed himself to be elected only to some of the minor offices of the township.

The marriage of Mr. Goodrich to Miss Nancy E. Pratt, was solemnized April 8, 1849. She was born in Westmoreland, Oneida Co., N. Y., April 20, 1826, being a daughter of James H. and Apama (Bell) Pratt. Of their happy union four children were born, namely: Frank H., Arthur M., Amreth L., (wife of T. P. Clark); and Helen. Mrs. Goodrich is a very intelligent and amiable woman, well adapted for the high position she holds in the community, is devoted to her family, and ever mindful of the comfort of others.

ADELBERT B. KIPP. Among the business men of Minonk, a prominent rank should be given the above-named gentleman, who is a dealer in lumber and hardware in that place. He has been a resident here since April, 1866, at which time he engaged with his brother, H. R. Kipp, in the lumber trade. In 1874 the firm of Kipp Bros. became Kipp & Gordon, and in 1883 the gentleman of whom we write became sole proprietor of the business, which he has since conducted alone.

Before relating the main events in the life of our subject, a few words in regard to his family will not be amiss. His parents were Charles A. and Eliza A. (Briggs) Kipp, both of whom were born in New York State. Their home was in Lexington, Greene County, for many years. Mr. Kipp was Colonel of the 20th New York State Millitia, and more or less prominent in public life. He served as Sheriff of that county, and later of Placer County, Cal. Upon the discovery of gold in that territory in 1848, Mr. Kipp was one of the first to start for that Eldorado of the West. His journey was made by the overland route, and he remained on the Slope for thirteen years. He engaged in mining, and when railroads began to be built, as contractor in that work. He met the usual fortune of a Californian in suffering some serious reverses, but was financially successful on the whole, and returned to the States with quite a fortune. Soon after his return from the West he located in Illinois, his first home being at Tonica, where he resided from 1863 to 1866. At that date he came to Minonk, and here died two years later, being then sixty-seven years old. His wife is still living here. The five children who comprise the family are all living; H. R. is a resident of Chicago, Ill.; O. S. and E. B., of Elliott, Iowa; Othelia, the wife of O. A. Newton, of this place. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is the third in order of this family.

Adelbert B. Kipp was born in Lexington, N. Y., Oct. 12, 1844. He was educated in the common schools and academy of his native place. At the age of sixteen he came to Illinois and stopped at Tonica, where two brothers and his sister were already living. The day after his journey he engaged as a farm hand, and served as such for one year. He then (1862) enlisted in Company D, 65th Illinois Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He was present in all the engagements in which the regiment participated, and was one of the few fortunate ones who escaped without wounds. At the battle of Harper's Ferry he was taken prisoner by the enemy, but was at once paroled and sent to Chicago. After being exchanged he rejoined his command, which was sent into Kentucky and Tennessee. Mr. Kipp was present at the siege of Knoxville, after which he made one of the 60,000 gallant men who accompanied Sherman to the sea. After their victorious entry into Atlanta, the regiment returned to Tennessee, and participated in the battles of Franklin, Pulaski and Nashville. They next went to Ft. Fisher, N. C., following which came the battles of Taylor's Creek, Millington, Goldsboro, and Johnstown, at which

place Gen. Johnson surrendered and the war closed. Mr. Kipp returned to Chicago, where he was mustered out of service. He was a faithful and efficient soldier, and the term "honorably discharged," is more than an empty name when applied to him.

Mr. Kipp returned to Tonica, and engaged as clerk in the old Union store at that place. Ten months later he changed his residence to this place, as before mentioned. At the home of the bride in Tonica, in November, 1866, he was married to Miss Margaret Belle Shepherd. She was born in Ripley, Ohio, and with her parents, Campbell A. and Mary A. Shepherd, came to Tonica, in the year 1852. She finished her education at the Miami University of Ohio. She bore her husband two children: Campbell S. and Sherwood N. She departed this life on the 6th of March, 1888, aged forty-five years. She was an educated and refined lady, a faithful wife and loving mother. Her death was deeply regretted by many friends outside the bereaved family circle.

Mr. Kipp is a Democrat, and for some years was active in political life. He was a delegate to county, district and State conventions, and has served his fellow-citizens as Supervisor, Alderman and Mayor of Minonk. He is a member of the G. A. R. His religious views coincide with the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, in which he holds membership. Mr. Kipp is a shrewd and successful business man, and the property which he possesses is the result of his own efforts. He is a man who enjoys the good things of life, and his home is a pleasant and hospitable one. He delights in hunting and fishing, and is a capital sportsman.

FRANK D. LEARNED is one of the pioneers of 1858, at which date he settled on section 18, Clayton Township. He was born in Dublin, Cheshire Co., N. H., Nov. 15, 1831. His father, Harvey Learned, was also born in that county, and is still residing there, at an advanced age. His mother, Elvira (Derby) Learned, died in 1882, at the age of seventy-two years. The family comprised thirteen children, one of whom died at the age of four years. Of those who grew to maturity, two have since departed this life. Adams D. was a soldier, being a captain of a company of United States colored troops. After the war he went to Texas, where he died of yellow fever. Marion D. was a member of the 14th New Hampshire Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Cedar Creek. The survivors are: Samuel D., residing at Lonsdale, R. I., where he is Assistant Superintendent of the Lonsdale Mills; Harvey D., a farmer in Delaware; Frank D., our subject; Mary A., residing with her brother Harvey; Webster D., a farmer in Delaware; Louisa V., a school teacher in Los Angeles, Cal.; Elnora M., wife of George Adams, of the same place; Willard D., a farmer at South Vineland, N. J.; Henry D., on the old homestead in Dublin; and D., a carpenter in Los Angeles, Cal. Harvey Learned was an old-line Whig, and is now a Republican. In 1840 he was a delegate to the National Convention which nominated Gen. W. H. Harrison, and in 1888 voted for Benjamin Harrison, now President of the United States. He was a farmer, and moderately successful financially. He held local offices, and is a man of excellent repute among his fellow-citizens.

The gentleman whose name heads this notice was educated in the common schools of his native State, where he engaged in the profession of teaching for two years. He also devoted two years to the work of an instructor in Delaware. In 1855 he came to Illinois, and first stopped at Lee Centre, Lee County. There he served as a farm hand for three years. He next came to Woodford County, and found employment in breaking prairie. He then purchased eighty acres of railroad land on the location noted at the beginning of our sketch, and lived thereon until 1872. At this date he removed to Benson, which village was just founded. He was the first Postmaster of the village, and held the office for nine years. He was also engaged in the drug business, which he continued until 1886. He now keeps a hotel and livery, and owns an interest in an elevator.

Mr. Learned is a Republican, and has held numerous local offices. He is now Justice of the

Peace and Notary Public. He has served as delegate to the county, district and State conventions. In 1888, he attended the National Convention as an alternate, and was present during the session. Mr. Learned has sold his farm lands in Woodford County, but owns a residence, store and lots in Benson. He also owns property in Chicago, and 160 acres in Harvey County, Kan. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and is Deacon in that society.

Mr. Learned was united in marriage, in 1860, with Miss Rosa Fisher, a native of Vermont. The union has been blessed by the birth of three children. The only daughter, Lydia C., died in Dover, Del., while her parents were attending the Centennial Exposition. This sad event occurred Oct. 1, 1876, the child being then six years of age. The surviving members of the family are: Frank E., Postmaster and druggist, at Benson, and Grant S., a farmer of Clayton Township.

ELIAS S. FURSMAN. Panola Township is as much indebted to this gentleman, as to any one individual, for the great advance it has made in the last quarter of a century. He has been identified with the leading interests of Woodford County in various ways since 1865. But at the present time he is attending solely to his farming concerns in the township just mentioned, where on section 30, he has one of the pleasantest and coziest of homes.

He is a native of Niagara County, N. Y., born Aug. 16, 1837, to William H. and Christine S. Fursman, the father deceased, and the mother now living in Chicago, Ill., at the venerable age of eighty-eight years. Both parents were natives of New York, and of English origin, the Fursman family coming to America in Colonial times prior to the Revolution. The father was a commissioned officer in the army in the War of 1812, and fought bravely against the British. Our subject passed the early years of his life in Niagara County till he had attained his eighteenth year. Being a youth of much ambition and spirit, he then set forth in the world to see what he could do for himself in the Great West, and making his way alone to Illinois, he sought and found work as a clerk in a store in Bloomington, and was thus employed some two years. In 1857 he settled on a quarter-section of Illinois Central Railway land in Waldo Township, Livingston County. He engaged in its improvement several years, and then disposing of it at a good price, he came to Woodford County in the spring of 1865, and established himself in the nursery business, purchasing forty acres of land in Panola Township, on section 30, where his house now stands. For a number of years he was extensively employed in raising ornamental and fruit trees and fruit, and in selling the same, doing a flourishing and paying business. In 1874 he turned his attention to another business, which he made no less profitable, buying the right to sell the Chicago scraper and ditcher throughout the State of Illinois. He made a financial success of that venture, as personally and through agents he disposed of 13,000 of these useful implements. In the year 1883 he entered upon still another enterprise, the manufacture of brick, erecting in that year the El Paso, Ill., Tile and Brick Works, and operated the same till the fall of 1888, when he sold out to the present proprietor for a good sum of money. In the fall of 1887 he built four brick buildings in El Paso, known as the Fursman Block, three of which he still owns. In connection with his other business he has always superintended the management of his farm, which he had increased in size by the purchase of the remaining 160 acres of the quarter on which he first located. He has it under admirable tillage, and it is better drained than any other quarter section in the whole township, there being a greater number of rods of tile on it than on any other farm of the same size in the vicinity. There is an excellent set of farm buildings on the place, and everything about is in excellent order.

Dec. 3, 1863, Mr. Fursman took unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Myra E. Pool, who has been of invaluable service to him in the upbuilding of their home, and knows well how to make it attractive to others. Mrs. Fursman is a native of

Woodford County, Ill., a daughter of Hiram Pool, one of the early settlers of the county. By this marriage five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fursman: Mary A., Fred F., Lawrence S., William H., Fannie E.

During the many years he has resided in Woodford County, Mr. Fursman has become widely known through business and social relations, and all of his acquaintances and friends acknowledge him to be a man of rare stability of character, who lives up to his principles and is an influence for good in his community. As a citizen, Panola Township finds in him one who lends a ready hand in support of all its interests. Like others of her leading citizens he is a self-made man, and has been the architect of his own fortunes. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. society at El Paso, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen. He is a decided Democrat in his political views, and affords his party strong support. He and his wife are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church at El Paso, of which he has been a faithful steward for many years, and they are also connected with the Sunday-school.

MARTIN LUTHER FULLER, JR., is a worthy descendant of an ancient New England family, who first settled in that part of the country in early Colonial times. Our subject came to Woodford County in 1854, and has since then successfully employed his time in developing a farm from the wild, uncultivated prairies, and now has it under admirable tillage, so that its every acre yields to the utmost, and their abundant harvests furnish an income sufficient to support his family in comfort. He has put up suitable buildings for all necessary purposes, and the place wears an air of thrift and neatness.

Mr. Fuller was born Jan. 21, 1828, in the town of Hamilton, Madison Co., N. Y., his father being the Rev. Martin Luther Fuller, a former well-known divine of the Baptist persuasion, who was born in Grafton, Windsor Co., Vt., Feb. 7, 1803. He can trace his lineage back many generations to one Asa Fuller, who was of early English ancestry. His son Thomas, the great-great-grandfather of our subject, was a native of New England, as was his son Thomas, great grandfather of our subject, and in the next generation Bartholomew Fuller, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Massachusetts. The two last named were soldiers in the Revolution, and did good service in the Continental army. The latter was under Arnold at West Point when he turned traitor to his country. The great-grandfather of our subject died in Massachusetts, from which State the grandfather removed to Vermont, and was a pioneer of the town of Grafton, in Windham County. He bought a tract of timbered land and cleared a farm, on which he passed his remaining years. The father of our subject was reared and married in his native State. He was a man of studious habits and of a deeply religious nature, and wishing to enter the ministry he went to Madison County, N. Y., about 1827, to attend the theological seminary. After completing his course he went to Essex County, that State, and was appointed pastor of the Baptist Church at Crown Point. At the close of his pastorate there he preached in various places in New York, and in 1855 came to Illinois and located in Cazenovia Township. He preached the Gospel very acceptably in this county and in various towns in Peoria County. His residence during the last few years of his life was at Washington, in Tazewell County, but he spent his last days in the home of our subject, passing to the great beyond, May 24, 1888, having rounded out a noble and honored life far beyond the Scriptural allotment. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Edna Converse, and she was born in Grafton, Windham Co., Vt. She passed into the life immortal from the home of our subject in the month of February, 1865. Six children were born of her marriage, of whom the following four grew to maturity: Edna S. married Erastus Hall; our subject; Abigail L. married Alonzo D. Stoddard; Mary M. married Cyrus B. Arnold.

He of whom we write was the only son that grew to manhood. He was given the advantages

RESIDENCE & PROPERTY OF ED. GOODWIN, MINONK ILLINOIS.

of a good education, attending school quite steadily in his youth. At the age of twenty-one he went to work on a farm, and was thus employed the ensuing three years. He then entered the mercantile business as clerk in a store at Mooers, in Clinton County, N. Y. But the sedentary life necessitated by that employment was detrimental to his health, and at the end of two years he was obliged to abandon it. That was in 1854, and he came directly to Illinois, and spent his first summer in the West, traveling in this State and in Wisconsin. After that he located in Cazenovia Township, and in the following winter purchased an 80-acre tract of land, which is now included in his present farm. In 1855 he put up a dwelling, and then commenced to improve his land, and has ever since resided here. He has erected a suitable set of frame buildings, and has otherwise greatly increased the original value of his place, and in all respects it compares favorably with the many other good farms in this township.

In the month of October, 1855, Mr. Fuller took an important step in the direction of establishing a home by his marriage with Miss Annie M. Fisher. They have two children living—Lydia E. and Francis E. Lydia married the Rev. Emil Tribolet.

Mr. Fuller is a man of steady, well-regulated habits, and is systematic in carrying on his work. His reputation for unswerving integrity and absolute truthfulness and honesty, is second to that of none other in the neighborhood. Religiously, he and his family are exemplary members of the Baptist Church, and politically, he is a true Republican.

JOSEPH TOOL is the owner and occupant of a pleasantly located farm one and a half miles northwest of El Paso. The estate comprises the east half of the southeast quarter of section 36, Greene Township, and has, through intelligent tillage, been brought to a high state of productiveness.

John J. and Elizabeth (Hayberger) Tool, parents of our subject, were pioneers in this county to which they came in October, 1832. Both were natives of Virginia, the father having been born in Washington County, and the mother in Augusta County. Mr. Tool was a cooper by trade, and also carried on farming. He removed from his native State to Illinois, and settled four miles west of Washington in Tazewell County. When Woodford County was divided off, the boundary line ran through Mr. Tool's house. Mr. Tool was a soldier during the War of 1812, and served under Gen. Jackson. He was wounded at the battle of Norfolk, Va. He was an old line Whig. His death took place in 1871, when he was past the age of eighty-seven. The mother died in 1885, having arrived at about the same age. The paternal family comprised seven boys and two girls: Conrad H., Catherine E., John B., William, Matthew, Jacob, James, Mary J., and Joseph.

The subject of this sketch was born Jan. 13, 1839, and grew up on the farm, which we have already said was divided off into Woodford County. He was united in marriage to Miss Sarah M. Capron, in 1862, and after his marriage settled on eighty acres on section 1, Greene Township. He afterwards sold that land, and in 1880 purchased his present farm. While yet a boy, Mr. Tool began work with a threshing machine. During twenty-one consecutive seasons he has followed threshing, and is counted one of the best threshers in the county.

The parents of Mrs. Joseph Tool were Edgar and Adaline (Edison) Capron. They were born in Vermont, and in 1844 settled in Metamora Township, this county, where the father subsequently died. Mrs. Capron removed to Kansas to reside with her son. She was, however, married a second time, and again became a widow in 1887. She is now living at the age of seventy-six. Mr. and Mrs. Capron had a family of six children, named respectively: Edwin, Mary, Sarah M., Myron and Milo (twins) and Myra. Sarah M. was born in Vermont and was a babe of two years when she came to Illinois, where she grew to maturity. She is an excellent lady, whose husband and children "arise up and call her blessed."

To Mr. and Mrs. Tool nine children have been

born: Lawrence E., Ernest LeRoy, Minnie F., who died at the age of two and a half years; Myron W., who died when eighteen years old; Jesse, Oliver L., Pearl O., Ellis and Ray. Lawrence E., resides on a farm in Butler County, Kan.; he married Miss Louisa Meyers of that State. Ernest LeRoy resides on a farm in the same county; he married Miss Anna Barnett and has one child—Myrtie. The remaining members of the family are still residing under the parental roof.

Mr. Tool votes the Republican ticket. He is interested in all matters pertaining to education and has been an efficient School Director. He has also served his fellow citizens as Pathmaster. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church of Clayton Township, which he helped to build. He has given liberally to various charitable institutions, and has donated money to nine different churches. He is a man of more than ordinary intelligence, industrious and efficient, and of a warm-hearted and generous nature; with his wife and family he commands the hearty respect of those with whom he comes in contact.

JACOB H. STRATHMAN. The subject of this notice is a worthy representative of two of the most important branches of business in a community, dealing extensively in furniture, and also operating as an undertaker at El Paso. The business was established by his father, August Strathman, about 1864, and is thus among the oldest enterprises in the city. For a number of years, until January, 1888, the business was conducted under the firm name of Strathman & Son, and then Jacob H. assumed control under the simple firm title of J. H. Strathman. He has a monopoly of this business here, being prompt and reliable, keeping first class goods and signalizing himself as a thorough business man in all his transactions.

The father of our subject in instituting this enterprise, located on the east side of the city, but removed to the west side in 1879, having his headquarters in the Eagle Block—one of the most important buildings in the city, and where it has since remained. The business is now conducted with a capital stock of $5,000, and the present proprietor, as did his honored father, enjoys a lucrative patronage. The latter began his business career as a practical cabinet-maker, which calling he prosecuted, more or less, until his death, which occurred June 1, 1888. He was not only a skilled workman, but a first-class business man—one who enjoyed in a marked degree the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

August Strathman was born in Prussia, July 2, 1833, and emigrated to the United States in 1851, when a youth of eighteen years. He located first in Dayton, Ohio, where he followed his trade two years, and next sojourned for a time in Chicago and Rock Island. Finally, he came to Peoria, where he was employed as a cabinet-maker for two years, and in the spring of 1857, changing his vocation, repaired to Minonk, and established himself in the grocery trade. Thence, in the spring of 1858, he came to El Paso with limited means, and for a time conducted a hotel. Later, he drifted into the furniture business at a time when he had a capital of less than $100. By the exercise of untiring industry and great prudence in his expenditures, he built up a paying business and accumulated a good property. His parents accompanied him to the United States and located near Lebanon, Ohio, where the father, Henry Strathman, pursued his trade of a stonemason, and died at the age of sixty-two years. Grandmother Strathman survived her husband only about two months, and died in Dayton, Ohio. In their native country they had embraced the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, but later, Grandmother Strathman became identified with the German-Methodist Church. Their son, August, the father of our subject, was first a Lutheran, and then joined the Presbyterian Church, in the faith of which he died.

The father of our subject was married in Peoria, Ill., to Miss Anna E. Balbach, who was born in the Kingdom of Bavaria, and came to America with her father, her mother having died in Bavaria. Mr. Balbach, upon coming to America, located first in Peoria, and later in Lacon, Marshall Co., this State, but subsequently removed to Wash-

burn, where he died when quite well advanced in years. The wife and mother afterward removed to Peoria, and was again married. Later she came with her husband to El Paso, where her sudden death took place Feb. 17, 1887, when she was about fifty-five years old—about the same age as her husband at his death. In religious matters the mother of our subject was a Presbyterian. The parental household included three children only—Charles A., who is engaged as a druggist in El Paso; Jacob H., our subject, and Anna E., who lives with the latter and looks after his domestic affairs.

Up to the time of his death August Strathman had the honor of having been in El Paso longer than any other man. He had put up the first large three-story frame building east of the Illinois Central Railroad, and which was subsequently destroyed by fire. This building was occupied by him, and contained the first City Hall, and was familiarly known as Strathman Hall. Both Mr. Strathman and his brother Charles were prominent in the Masonic fraternity, belonging to the Blue Lodge, Council, and the Commandery. Mr. Strathman's remains were laid to rest with Masonic honors, and his funeral sermon, given by Rev. William Crewes, was a touching eulogy upon a character which was admired and beloved by all who knew him.

Mrs. Anna E. (Balbach) Strathman was born near Neustadt, in Bavaria, Oct. 4, 1833, and she, like her husband, has been frugal and hard-working, devoted to her home and family. It has been remarked that nothing lovelier can be found in woman than to study the welfare and happiness of her household, and Mrs. Strathman was characterized by this loveliness in a high degree. Quiet and retiring in manner, she sought by labor and patience to make home the most attractive spot on earth to those dearest to her. Her first care was for her husband and children, and she was of that firm will and loving heart which enabled her to meet adversity with a noble dignity and patience, which at once indicated a character in accord with the true principles of Christianity. It may be truthfully said "that her life was Christ, and her death was gain."

Our subject was born Oct. 14, 1858, in the place which remains his home, but at a time when it gave little indication of its present importance. He received a practical education in the city schools, and wound up with attendance at the Business College, in Louisville, Ky. He is a Democrat politically, and, with his sister, belongs to the Presbyterian Church. The father of our subject was a a Democrat, politically, and his son, Charles, is in sympathy with the Republican party. Charles and Jacob H. belong to the Masonic fraternity and the Order of Knights Templar.

The sons of the Fatherland are inseparably connected with the growth and development of the great West, and have become a part and parcel of its people, comprising a large portion of its most thrifty and enterprising element. They have identified themselves with American institutions, and proved themselves the friends of a great Republic in times of war as well as in times of peace, wielding the sword and musket whenever necessary, and when the necessity for this has passed, retiring peacefully to the pursuits of civil life, and here performing their part equally well. Their sturdy muscles and usually temperate habits have assisted greatly in the development of the rich resources of the West, while the principles of honesty and integrity which they inherit from their substantial ancestry have aided in strengthening the foundations of one of the greatest nations on the face of the earth. Too much cannot be said in their favor as a nation, and as individual citizens, the Strathmans have been most worthy representatives of their ancestry.

EDWIN GOODWIN, brick manufacturer, has been a resident of Minonk since 1869. His present dwelling is an imposing two-story brick structure, and is the best residence in the city. It was erected in 1886, and the grounds belonging to it comprise forty acres adjoining the city limits. In addition to this, Mr. Goodwin owns 200 acres of valuable farm land.

Our subject was born in Leicestershire, England, July 8, 1840, being a son of Thomas and Elizabeth

(Gasby) Goodwin. Thomas Goodwin was a woolcomber, and during the War of 1812, a soldier in the British army. He died in England, at the age of sixty-seven years. His widow came with our subject to the United States in 1863. She subsequently married Jesse Manich, at Lacon, Ill., and died at the age of ninety-one years. The parental family consisted of eleven children, eight of whom lived to maturity. Joseph was a brickmaker, and died at Streator, Ill.; Sarah lives in England; George was also a brickmaker, and died at Streator, Ill.; Maria died in England; Luke was a brickmaker, and died in Mendota, Ill.; Kate and Eliza reside in England.

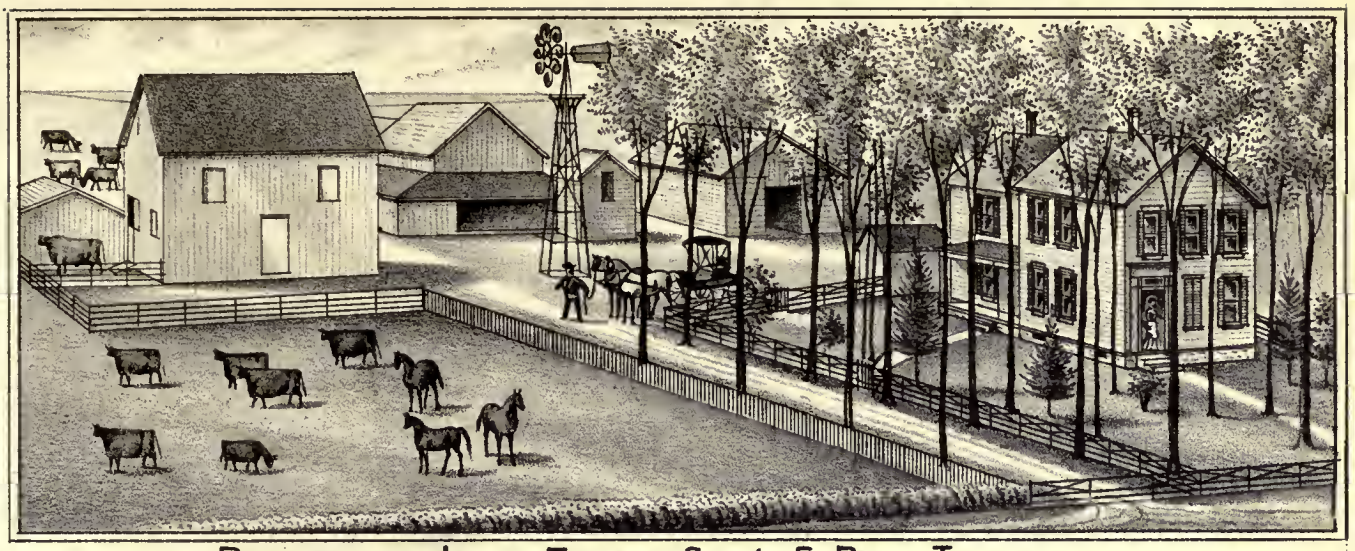
Edwin Goodwin, the subject of our sketch, is the only one of the family left in the United States. Early in life he learned the trade of a brickmaker, which he followed in his native country until 1863. He then came to the United States, and located at Mendota, where at that time he had a brother living. In 1865 he enlisted in the Union army, and was mustered into service in Company G., 156th Illinois Infantry, in which he served for about ten months. After receiving his discharge, he returned to Mendota, and in 1866, worked in Earlville during one season. Returning to Mendota, where he was proprietor of the business, he remained until his removal to this place. On coming here, he immediately engaged in the same business. His were the first bricks ever made here, and it was at first hard to get people to believe that good brick could be made on the prairie. Mr. Goodwin persevered in his business, however, and in a few years convinced the people that he could accomplish that end. From that time on he was successful, and he now has a trade which authorizes the manufacture of 1,000,000 brick per year. The fine property which he owns has nearly all been acquired since his arrival in this place.

In 1860, Mr. Goodwin was united in marriage with Miss Fannie Ratliffe, who was born in Kingston, England, and was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Ratliffe. She has one sister, Anna, in Philadelphia, now Mrs. Vaily. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin are the parents of thirteen children, nine of whom are now living. The oldest, Erbert, lives with his grandparents in England. The remainder brighten the parental fire-side. They are Anna, Luke, Kate, John Maria, Lillie, Arthur, and Bert.

Mr. Goodwin is an adherent of the Republican party. He has held several local offices, among them that of School Trustee, of which he has been an incumbent for about fifteen years. He is a member of Minonk Lodge No. 372, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all the Chairs, as he likewise has in the Encampment. He also belongs to Robert Morris Lodge No. 247, A. F. & A. M.; Rutland Chapter No. 112, R. A. M.; and Coeur de Leon Commandery No. 43, Knights Templar. Mr. Goodwin bears the reputation of a thoroughly reliable business man, an enterprising citizen, and a man of social nature and fine principles; and as such is esteemed by his fellow-citizens.

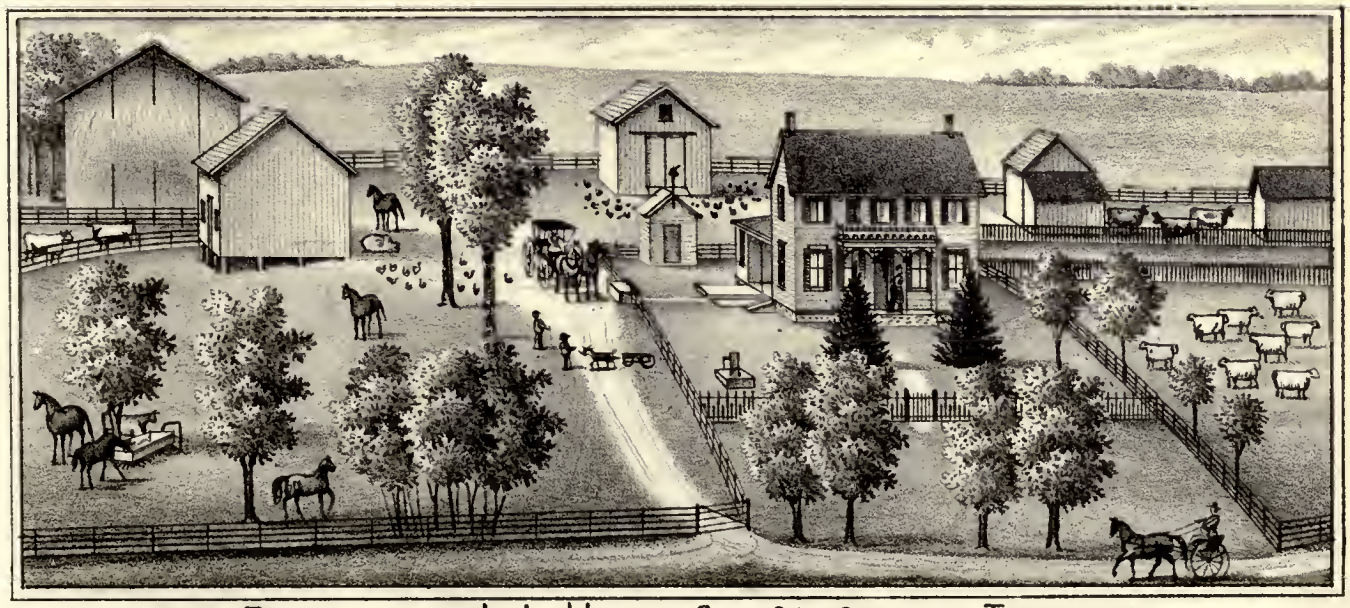
OSCAR SHUGART is a native born citizen of Illinois, coming of good pioneer stock, and is now a worthy member of its farming community. He is aiding in the sustenance and extension of the vast agricultural interests of Woodford County, and is the proprietor of a very desirable farm, finely located in Cazenovia Township, one and one-half miles south of the village of Washburn. Mr. Shugart was born in the adjoining county of Marshall, twelve miles northeast of Lacon, Oct. 18, 1846. His father Isaac Shugart, was born either in New York or Illinois, and after attaining manhood, he became a pioneer of Marshall County, where he spent his last years.

Our subject was reared in his native county, and was educated in its public schools. He was bred to agricultural pursuits, receiving a thorough practical training in that line on the home farm, and he followed farming quite successfully in Marshall County until 1869. In that year he came to Woodford County, and in 1873 he invested some of his money in the farm that he now owns and occupies. It contains 161 acres of as fine and productive farming land as is to be found in this part of the county. Mr. Shugart has busied himself about its improvement, and in the years of hard labor that



RESIDENCE OF JOHN TYLER, SEC. 1. EL PASO TOWNSHIP.

RESIDENCE OF HENRY KRUG, SEC. 8. PANOLA TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE OF J. L. HOYT, SEC. 36. CRUGER TOWNSHIP.

have ensued since it came into his possession, he has brought about many changes, and has developed it into one of the best farms in the neighborhood, providing it with a substantial set of buildings and all the conveniences for making farming easy.

Mr. Shugart has been blessed with a good wife to aid him in his undertakings, he having been united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Crawford, May 22, 1872. She was born in Cazenovia Township, and is a daughter of Mathew and Jane Crawford, of whom see sketch on another page of this work. Three children complete the happy household circle of our subject and his estimable wife—Warren, Maggie, and Wilbur.

Mr. Shugart possesses a good degree of acumen, shrewdness, a self-reliant spirit, and other attributes that have already placed him in an assured position among the substantial farmers of his community, and is looked upon as an intelligent and hard worker, who knows well how to direct his labors so as to produce the best results. He and his wife occupy a good position in social circles, and have numerous warm friends, with whom they often share the generous hospitalities of their cozy home.

ZACHARIAH H. WHITMIRE, M. D., has for many years been prominently identified with the medical profession of Woodford County, and is still practicing in Metamora, although his ill-health limits his sphere of usefulness. He is well known throughout the county, and is greatly honored not only as an intelligent and successful physician, but as a man and citizen.

The Doctor was born in Sydney, Shelby Co., Ohio, June 25, 1823, a son of John and Elizabeth (Robinson) Harris Whitmire. (For parental history see sketch of Dr. J. S. Whitmire.) Our subject received his early education in the public schools of his native State, and when eighteen years of age accompanied his parents to Illinois. He assisted his father in improving his farm in Cass County, and after he had attained his majority resumed his attendance at school, being a pupil in the one in Virginia, Cass County, taught by Prof. Loomis. After that the Doctor taught school himself one term. He had commenced studying medicine at the age of twenty years, and in the season of 1848–49 and in 1849–50 he attended lectures at Rush Medical College, and was graduated from that celebrated institution in March or February, 1850. In April of that year he established himself as a physician at Spring Bay, then one of the most flourishing towns in the county, its situation on the river making it quite a point for trade and shipping, in the absence of competition from railways. In 1851 he formed a partnership with his brother, Dr. J. S. Whitmire, and they continued together till 1873, enjoying a large and lucrative practice. In April, 1863, our subject was appointed by President Lincoln, Surgeon of the Board of Enrollment for the 8th District of Illinois, with headquarters at Springfield. He was amply qualified for that position, performed his duties admirably, and did good service for the Government while he held it. But Jan. 6, 1865, he was obliged to resign the position on account of ill-health, and he immediately resumed his practice here, and has continued ever since to pursue his profession, although his physical powers have never regained their former vigor. He is highly thought of as a skillful, practical physician, with a fine knowledge of his profession in all its branches.

Dr. Whitmire has been twice married. In 1854 he was wedded to Mary Dorrence Kellogg, a native of Connecticut. Her father, the Rev. Ezra B. Kellogg, was a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, and he organized the society and built a church for that denomination here. He was a native of New England, but his last years were spent in California. After a brief but happy wedded life, Mrs. Whitmire passed away, in Metamora, in the month of October, 1855, leaving one son, Ed B., as the fruit of her marriage. In 1858 the Doctor was united in marriage to Miss Melissa A. Morse, and they have three children now living: James H., who resides on St. Simond's Island, Ga.; Mabel, the wife of Joel Morse, and the mother of one child, Hazel; Will L., a medical student, who has been a pupil in the Medical Department of the Iowa State College, and has attended Rush Medica

College. Mrs. Whitmire was born in Haverhill, N. H., a daughter of Doctor Aaron Morse, who was born in the same town, and was there reared and married. He was graduated from a medical school, and commenced the practice of his profession at Hyde Park, Vt., to which place he removed a few years after his marriage. He was actively engaged there as a doctor for some years, and then established himself in Waterbury, which he made his home his remaining years. The maiden name of his wife was Amelia Miles, and she was also born and reared in Haverhill. She died in Hyde Park, Vt., about 1831. After her mother's death Mrs. Whitmire came to live with an elder sister, and was engaged in teaching till her marriage.

Dr. Whitmire is possessed of many fine mental endowments, and is a gentleman of true culture. During his many years' residence here, he has gathered together many warm friends from among those who have been indebted to him for professional services and otherwise. He has attained high rank among his brethren of the medical calling, and keeps himself well up with the times in his profession. He is a valuable member of the Woodford County Medical Society, and is connected with the G. A. R. at Washington.

J. J. YAMBERT, a prosperous farmer and enterprising citizen of Greene Township, residing on section 35, is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born in Montgomery County, near Dayton, Dec. 12, 1844. The family is of French descent, and was founded in America by the great-grandfather of our subject, who left his native land and emigrated to America during the Colonial days of this country. He settled near Philadelphia and followed teaming for a livelihood. With a six-horse wagon he at one time started for Florida, to secure a load of roots and herbs for certain druggists of the city. He loaded his wagon and started on the return trip, but never reached home. It was thought that he was taken ill and died on the way, or perhaps was murdered by a band of ruffians, for he was never heard of again. His son, the grandfather of our subject, was left an orphan at an early age and was reared by a family who resided in the neighborhood where his parents located. He made farming his life occupation, and emigrated from the Keystone State to Ohio, locating in Seneca County, during the early days of its history. He died at the ripe old age of eighty-one years.

Aaron Yambert, his son, was born in Berks County, Pa., prior to the removal of the family to the West, and on arriving at man's estate was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Huffer, also a native of the Keystone State. At the age of twenty-one years he began studying for the ministry, and for twenty-eight years traveled continuously, disseminating the Gospel throughout the States of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Michigan. He died in Seneca County, Ohio, July 4, 1888, at the advanced age of eighty years. His life was a long and useful one, and in the Master's service he accomplished a work which cannot be measured by any special standard. His excellent wife died in 1887, at the age of seventy-three years. They were the parents of thirteen children, four of whom died in infancy, while nine are yet living, as follows: Caroline, Mary A., Lavina, Joshua J., Aaron H., Sarah C., Susanna, Syblla and Julia M.

Though born in Montgomery County, Ohio, at an early age our subject became a resident of Seneca County, where he was reared to manhood. His primary education was received in the common schools, and at the age of eighteen years he entered the Heidleberg University at Tiffin, Ohio, where he pursued his studies until the spring of 1865, when he laid aside his Greek lexicon and in its place shouldered the musket in his country's defense. He enlisted as a member of Company B, 195th Ohio Infantry, and was mustered in at Camp Chase, whence with his regiment he marched to Richmond, but on arriving in that city learned that the day previous it had surrendered. The regiment then returned to Alexandria, where it relieved some of the old troops and for some time was engaged in guard duty. In December, 1865, with his comrades of the 195th regiment, he was

discharged at Alexandria, and on the day before Christmas reached home.

Mr. Yambert afterward again resumed his studies, and in the spring of 1866, engaged in teaching. The following year he led to the marriage altar Miss Lutieia Starkey, of Seneca County, Ohio, a lady of culture and refinement. Her parents were natives of Wyandotte, Ohio. In the spring of 1869, the young couple removed to Illinois, taking up their residence upon the farm which Mr. Yambert has since made his home. Five children were born of their union: James A., Sarah A., Lavina J., Chalmers H., and one who died in infancy. Those yet living still make their home with their father. In 1878, Mrs. Yambert was called to her final rest, dying at the age of twenty-nine years.

Mr. Yambert was again married in 1879, the lady of his choice being Miss Susan Ellenberger, who was born in Seneca County, Ohio, and is a daughter of Rudolph and Sarah (Ferner) Ellenberger, both of whom were natives of the Keystone State, but removed to Seneca County, Ohio, soon after their marriage. In 1876 they became residents of El Paso, where the father died in 1880, at the age of seventy-one years. His wife still survives him, and is now residing in Woodford County with her son. Of their children the following are living—Sarah, Lena, Samuel, George W., Daniel P. and Susan, wife of our subject.

Mr. and Mrs. Yambert have a pleasant home, surrounded by many of the comforts and luxuries of life, conveniently situated about three and a half miles northwest of El Paso. Hospitality there abounds, and the guests receive a hearty welcome and cordial greeting, for its mistress is a lady of high social attainments, who knows how to make each one feel at his ease. Mr. Yambert is now the owner of his large farm, comprising 170 acres of arable land, highly improved and cultivated, on sections 25 and 35, Greene Township. Public-spirited and progressive, he is a valued citizen, and though liberal in his views, is always true to justice and principle. In educational matters, he takes a warm interest. In political sentiment, he is a Republican, and a warm advocate of the party principles, having affiliated with that organization since attaining his majority. In the early days his people were strong friends of the abolition movement, and supported that party until the organization of the Republican party, which was formed to prevent the further extension of slavery. Both Mr. and Mrs. Yambert are members of the Evangelical Association, of El Paso, and are active workers for the interests of that denomination. He is a man of commanding presence. Nature has endowed him with a splendid physique. As representative citizens and highly respected people, Mr. and Mrs. Yambert are well worthy of representation in the volume of Woodford County's history, and it is with pleasure that we record their sketch.

GOTTLIEB HOHULIN, Montgomery Township, besides having been for about twenty-six years a minister of the new Mennonite Church, is also a teacher of the German language, and likewise carries on a farm of 120 acres on sections 5 and 6. This is well-improved, and is located on the road to Eureka, and has been the home of its present proprietor for nearly eighteen years.

Mr. Hohulin has been a resident of this county since 1859, and made his first purchase of land in Montgomery Township. He was born in the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany, not many miles from the city of Freiburg, March 30, 1834, and is of pure German stock, being the son of Christian Hohulin, who died when Gottlieb was about seventeen years old, at the age of fifty-one years. He spent his entire life in farming pursuits. The maiden name of the mother was Mary Lescher. She likewise spent her entire life on her native soil, dying when comparatively a young woman, at the age of forty-three years.

The subject of this sketch learned linen weaving under the instruction of his father, who followed this calling in connection with farming, and for eight years after his father's death employed himself at the loom. He then determined to emigrate to America, and repairing to the city of Bremen set sail, reaching New York City thirty-two days

thereafter. Thence he proceeded to Illinois, where he secured employment as a laborer until after the outbreak of the Civil War, and then returned to his trade, weaving homespun and jeans, and afterward manufactured coverlets considerably. At the same time he carried on farming. He had received a good education in his youth, and being industrious and intelligent, was fairly well prospered in his labors.

Mr. Hohulin was married in Woodford County, to Miss Augusta Wenger, a native of his own province in Germany, and born May 10, 1832. She lived in her native country until about twenty-seven years of age, and then came to America with her parents, they settling in this county, and her father, Conrad Wenger, for a time followed his trade of shoemaker. He spent his last days in Fairbury, Ill., dying when about seventy-seven years old. He was a member in good standing of the new Mennonite Church. The mother is still living, making her home with her daughter in McLean County, Ill., and has arrived at the advanced age of eighty-four years. She united with the Mennonite Church many years ago.

The seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hohulin were named respectively: Julia, Hannah, Joseph, John, Samuel, Timotheus, and Elizabeth. They are a bright and intelligent group, and are all living at home with their parents.

GEORGE L. GIBSON. To the passing traveller and the casual visitor, the little city of El Paso presents a pleasant appearance. It lies nestling in a valley and adorned with beautiful shade trees, while its well-laid streets are a monument to the taste and industry of the pioneer settlers of the town. For this beauty and symmetry much credit is due Mr. Gibson, the subject of our notice. He has contributed of his means and influence to make El Paso one of the most attractive towns of the West, and persuaded the citizens to contribute of their time and means to lay out the streets, plant shade trees, and also locate the public park, which is one of the features of the city, and enables the people to pass many pleasant hours beneath the shade of its trees. Notwithstanding that Mr. Gibson has thus benefitted El Paso, he is not now possessed of the treasures of this world, but has that which is better than gold and precious jewels, the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. He is looked upon by others as one of the benefactors of El Paso, and was in fact the proprietor and founder of that part of the town located east of the Illinois Central Railroad, which is perhaps the best resident portion of the city. That this is true, is largely due to the generous and well-directed efforts of Mr. Gibson, who induced his friends to help him in the work of laying out the streets, and building up that part of the city. He also was fully aware of the importance of a good school, and as that part of the city embraces one of the school districts, he and his neighbors have been instrumental in the erection of a fine schoolhouse which is a credit to them and to the community in which they reside.

Mr. Gibson has had an eventful life, and has been a resident of many different towns and States, and was one of those who in 1849 went to California in the search for gold. He remained in that then wilderness for a period of two years, and returned richer in experience as well as in money. He gained a knowledge of life in the West, which was very beneficial to him, and felt that his trip had not been in vain, for he could bring back some gold dust with him, as the result of his labor.

Our subject was a native of the Key-Stone State, being born in Fayette County, Oct. 2, 1818. He accompanied his parents to Illinois in 1831, and settled in Tazewell County, about three miles above Peoria, which was then a military station, known as Fort Clark. The Government was compelled to keep soldiers at all the prominent towns and stopping places, for that was during the time of the Indian troubles; indeed the Black Hawk War was not yet terminated. Mr. Gibson, the father of our subject, died the year after their removal to Illinois, leaving a family of nine children, of whom George L. was the oldest. He was then fifteen years of age, and for the succeeding ten years remained on the parental homestead, which his father

had bought. It was of course at first unbroken, and in the primitive condition of nature, but the continued efforts of the family were not in vain, and it in a few years became one of the best farms in the county.

George L. Gibson did not, however, remain idly waiting for fortune to come to him. While yet very young, he built a couple of flatboats and engaged in trading on the lower Mississippi, then a business followed by many with success. Later our subject followed the warehouse and commission business at Wesley City, which was his home for four years. Afterward he engaged in the mercantile business in Washington, Ill., until the year 1849, when as above stated, he caught the gold fever, and took an overland trip to California. In the fall of 1851 he engaged in the lumber trade in Henry, Ill., and at the same time entered 160 acres of land, comprising that part of El Paso which lies east of the Illinois Central Railroad. In 1854 he laid this out in town lots, and three years afterward removed with his family to the new city. Since that time he has been identified with the growth and history of El Paso, and has been ever prompt in promoting the interests of his adopted home.

Mr. Gibson found a willing assistant in his labors in the person of his wife, who was Miss Matilda Heath. She was born Feb. 5, 1825, in Muskingum County, Ohio, and there remained until her marriage with our subject which took place June 1, 1843. She was for many years his faithful wife and sympathizing helpmate, until death called her to her rest, Feb. 23, 1872. She was just entering upon the autumn of life, and surrounded by an affectionate husband and loving children looked forward to a happy old age. But it was not to be so. Since her death her husband has made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Fleming, in El Paso.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibson were the parents of five children, namely:—William W., who lives in the West; Sarah Nevada, now Mrs. Hereford, of Denver, Ill.; Kate May, wife of Edward Hodgson, whose biography is given elsewhere in this volume; May, wife of W. R. Fleming, a traveling man of this city; and George F.

Mr. Gibson was called to the office of City Mayor for two terms, and ably executed all the details and duties imposed upon him while an incumbent of that position. He was also a number of times a member of the City Council, and has been in various ways honored by his fellow citizens.

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